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An Open Forum on the Provision of Electronic Federal Information to Depository Libraries

REPORT OF THE STAFF

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

TO THE CHAIRMAN

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

OPEN FORUM HELD ON JUNE 26, 1985
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Letter of Transmittal

SEPTEMBER 6, 1985.

Hon. CHARLES MCC. MATHIAS, JR.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing,
Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As Staff Director of the Joint Committee on Printing, I am pleased to transmit to you on behalf of the staff of the Joint Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases the proceedings of the Open Forum on Electronic Federal Information to Depository Libraries held on June 26, 1985.

The open forum was held to let concerned parties comment on the report "Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries" submitted to the Joint Committee by the Ad Hoc Committee, and to solicit suggestions for possible pilot projects that can test the feasibility of the proposal. Over 150 agency representatives, congressional staffers, librarians and private sector representatives attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS J. KLEIS,
Staff Director.

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PROCEEDINGS

Mr. KLEIS. Good afternoon. On behalf of the members of the Joint Committee on Printing, I want to welcome you to this Open Forum on Electronic Federal Information to Depository Libraries.

I'm sure everybody in the room knows that in May of 1983, the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, Senator Mathias, authorized the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases.

In December of this past year, in 1984, the Ad Hoc Committee issued its report, which has been out for some time now, some several months, for everybody to review. The purpose of this forum is really to give everyone a chance to react to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee and we hope that it will engender some ideas for possible pilot projects.

Let me say what we in the Joint Committee feel needs to happen after this. The Ad Hoc Committee will meet again shortly after this forum and will begin discussing the ideas that came up for pilot projects and actually devise in more detail the criteria for evaluating any proposed projects.

Let me say a few things procedurally. I guess all of you have a copy of the agenda, and shortly we'll be turning it over to the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for discussion.

But to expedite the distribution of the results of this particular forum, we hope to be able to issue the transcript with the statements submitted by various people attached in microfiche as soon as possible. We will hold the record open for 30 days following this forum to allow other written statements to be submitted.

Now, there will be some verbal presentations today, and I ask in the interest of time that you limit your remarks to five minutes. Again, let me say that we hope this forum will stimulate all of you out there to think of possible information already in electronic format in your organizations that could be distributed to depository libraries.

Our timetable is to try to wrap up by 5, and so let's begin by allowing me to introduce Bernadine Abbott Hoduski, who chaired the Ad Hoc Committee. Bernadine will give you a little presentation and introduce the other members of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Ms. HODUSKI. My speech is going to be accompanied with some audio-visual transparencies, so do you want to put on the first slide, Margaret?

It seems like an eternity to the Committee members, but back in 1983 the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing, Senator Mathias, authorized the setting up of an advisory committee on providing electronic publications to depository libraries. We chose a title that the Chairman still doesn't like. It's quite a mouthful. It is called the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases.

The next slide, Margaret.

The purpose of the Committee—and the Committee doesn't necessarily feel that we fulfilled all of those purposes, but we attempted to fill most of them--was to first evaluate the feasibility and desirability of providing access to Federal Government information in electronic formats to Congressional depository libraries; to determine what and how much Federal Government information is in electronic format; to determine if depository libraries have the ability to access the new formats; to determine the costs and benefits of providing information in electronic format; and the major policy areas to be addressed.

The Committee was composed of representatives from various organizations and agencies. Those professional organizations represented were—and as I go through this, I would like the Committee person here to stand up so that the audience can see who you are. If they want to ask you any questions later, they can do it more easily. We also have a couple of substitutes.

From our professional organizations, the American Association of Law Libraries, Steve Margeton.

[Mr. Margeton stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The American Library Association, Judith Rowe.

[Ms. Rowe stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. Judith is from Princeton. Steve is with a private law firm and soon—can I tell them?

Mr. MARGETON. Yes.

Ms. HODUSKI. Soon will be the Supreme Court librarian.

Computers and Business Equipment Manufacturers Association, Harry DeMaio and Ron Keelan, neither of whom could make it to this meeting. I think they're both traveling internationally.

From the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer, Richard Leacy, from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and he'll be giving a presentation later.

[Mr. Leacy stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The Information Industry Association, Judith Russell.

[Ms. Russell stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. Judith is with Disclosure Information Group.

My assistant, Margaret Conyngham is with the Nuclear Regulatory Library and is representing the Special Library Association.

[Ms. Conyngham stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. Now, from the Executive Branch, we have the Bureau of the Census. Michael Garland is, I believe, on travel and wasn't able to join us, so he sent Forrest Williams.

[Mr. Williams stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The Environmental Protection Agency, Sarah Kadec. Sarah is going to try and join us later. She's now retired, so I think she's basically our only Committee person who is free to say whatever she really believes.

[Laughter.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The National Technical Information Service, Ken Rosenberg.

[Mr. Rosenberg stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. You can't see Ken; he's behind the screen, but Ken always says what he believes.

The Patent and Trademark Office—William Lawson is unable to be with us today and Martha Crockett is taking his place.

[Ms. Crockett stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The Technical Information Center of Department of Energy, Bill Vaden. Bill has also retired, but he was not able to make it here today.

Now, in the Legislative Branch of the Government, we have the Government Printing Office, Dennis Chastain, and Dennis is on vacation, so Raymond Pluto is taking his place, again behind the screen here to the left.

[Mr. Pluto stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. House Information Systems—we had two representatives, Boyd Alexander and Michael Dougherty, and Michael is with us today.

[Mr. Dougherty stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The Joint Committee on Printing, myself, Bernadine Hoduski.

The Library of Congress, Joseph Price.

[Mr. Price stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. And the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, Anthony Harvey. Tony is also the clerk of the Joint Committee on the Library.

[Mr. Harvey stood.]

Ms. HODUSKI. The Ad Hoc Committee took a number of approaches to try to arrive at some recommendations. First of all, we did a survey of the depository library community, and there are close to 1,400 libraries throughout the country that are part of the program.

We also had numerous presentations on the state-of-the-art technology, what Government agencies are doing in the area of automation, what experts think is going to happen in the future.

The Office of Technology Assessment held a day-long workshop for us, inviting people that they considered experts. And the subcommittees did research in various areas and presented that in conversations.

We also met for two days a month for over a year and took some field trips within the Washington, DC, area; for example, to the National Library of Medicine to see their optical disk project, and we had a day-long presentation by the Department of Energy.

The results of the survey of the depository libraries—we had 1,291 responses from libraries. At the time, I think there were about 1,390 libraries; we consider that a very good response.

You can see the breakdown in the kinds of libraries. The majority of libraries are academic. A lot of them are large research institutions, like Berkeley, MIT, Georgia Tech. Public libraries—we have most of the major public libraries throughout the country—Chicago public, Kansas City, San Francisco, Atlanta.

Law schools—the majority of the accredited law schools are members. We have a number of court libraries—appellate courts and other kinds of courts; many State agency libraries, e.g. State libraries that serve State officials and others; and Federal agency libraries.

The libraries ranged in size, if you're measuring it the way librarians think—by the number of volumes, which can mean paper

or microfiche, and now hopefully electronic media—ranged from a library with 50,000 volumes to those with over 4 million. So it could range from a very small public library, say, in Great Falls, MT, to a very large institution like New York Public.

Eighty-six percent of the libraries used at least one telecommunications systems, and all of the telecommunications systems, including WATS and FTS, were included in their responses.

Seventy-three percent of the libraries cooperate in on-line cooperative cataloging systems, indicating to us that they are using terminals, they are using automated systems to share information with other libraries.

We asked questions about networking of equipment that they were going to be including in the cooperative arrangement they'd have with other—not only other libraries, but, for example, in a large institution like MIT, were they cooperating with other units of that institution?

Or if it is a spread-out institution like the University of California where there may be perhaps four or five branches, are they doing an intercooperative automation system?

Thirty-seven percent said that they had an in-house computer. That does not necessarily mean in the library, but available to them somewhere in their institutional framework. Twenty-six percent plan to acquire a computer; 28 percent are part of an intraorganizational network; 14 percent plan to be part of one.

Twenty percent have an interorganizational network, and 10 percent plan to establish an interorganizational network.

Of course, this survey was conducted in 1983 and the figures put together in 1984, and this is 2 years later and we are assuming that the numbers would be greater and that a lot of things have happened even in the last 2 years to increase the usage of this kind of equipment and systems.

Then we go to the kind of equipment that the libraries have—1,041 libraries responded that they do have terminals, and out of those libraries there were a total of 9,492 terminals. Eighty-one percent of those 1,041 had at least one terminal in their library.

The terminals were used for four major areas: for cataloging, over 62 percent; administrative services, keeping track of personnel, payroll, and so on, 31 percent; reference, almost 66 percent; and government documents reference, 41 percent.

Many of the librarians did not have a terminal in their department, but they used the terminal in reference or even the terminal in cataloging or somewhere else. So it's a little misleading if you look in the report where it says how many terminals are in a documents department versus whether the staff in those departments are actually using the library's terminals, because some libraries have a separate search room that is separate from all the subject departments.

Then we asked them about the computers that they have; 417 libraries out of the 1,291 had mainframe computers; 322 had minicomputers, and 530 had microcomputers.

The next set of information can be—some of it can be interpreted in different ways. As anyone who has ever done a survey knows, when you get the survey back, you realize you shouldn't have

asked the question in this particular way or you should have asked another question.

We gave the librarians a list of 44 data bases that we had identified as publications and are available through various means, either directly from the agency or through a commercial service or perhaps purchased by the library and put up by the library.

They listed the ones that they were using, and ERIC, which is the Educational Research Information Center, came out on top. The Library of Congress MARC tapes, which, of course, many of the libraries are using through bibliographic networks, so they are basically secondary users rather than primary users; Medline, serves a system of medical libraries connected into the National Library of Medicine; the Monthy Catalog of the Government Printing Office which is available—the cataloging in it is available in most major bibliographic networks and in some commercial networks; National Technical Information Service, their bibliographic listing; Agricola, which the National Library of Agriculture puts out; Child Abuse and Neglect; the Federal Register; Health Planning and Administration; National Criminal Justice Reference Center. I don't know whether that last one means anything or not.

The librarians also indicated the publications that are currently available electronically that they weren't accessing, but would like to access either then or in the future.

They indicated the U.S. Public Laws, the United States Code, the Code of Federal Regulations, Presidential executive docments, the GPO Sales Reference File, the Federal Register, the GPO Monthly Catalog, the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, the BLS labor statistics, and the National Criminal Justice Reference Center.

Then the following list is the one that the Committee debated over the results. We asked them to name data bases that were not available to them that they would like to have available to them. Now, we think some of them responded with the idea that they would like to have it available through the depositories. Some of these things actually are available commercially or through some other source.

The Congressional Record was number one. The census—now, there is a state data census system where each State gets census material and provides it to State agencies and libraries, but we believe that what they were indicating—there may not be some census information available or they're not getting access to it even though it may be in their State.

Patents—what we think that they were talking about were the patents themselves, the full text, and that is available through commercial service, but not through the Patent Office. At least 50 of these libraries surveyed are patent depositories and have direct access to the patent indexes on line.

NASA RECON—again, that's actually a software package, so we're not quite sure exactly what they were referring to. United States Reports; Fish and Wildlife Survey—that seemed like they wanted the entire agency available.

IRS, OSHA, LEGIS, and SCORPIO—again, SCORPIO is a software language, but many people in the library community refer to all the date bases at the Congressional Research Service and LC as

SCORPIO, no matter what the data base is, and they have been very much interested in LEGIS and some of the other files.

The next thing that we looked at is what are the options for providing depository libraries with access to electronic data bases. Naturally, one of the options could be just do nothing, just stay with the status quo and let the libraries go out and get whatever they want, however they're been able to get it in the past. In some cases that's working very well; in other cases it's not.

A second option is a program for providing access to data bases, and then we list the kinds of programs that we thought could be considered. The first one would be a central on-line data base of information accessed by all libraries. One of the examples we looked at was the patent system, where the libraries tap into the agency's computer and are able to use it on line.

There is a discussion of are we talking about a big data base in the sky where everyone's information is available and someone taps into it, or are we talking about data bases in agencies that libraries tap into. There are two options on that.

The second one is just to provide the information on tape or other electronic media—optical disk, and so on—directly to the libraries, just like we do the paper and micorfiche; just send it out to them and say, here it is, do with it whatever you want.

In some instances, that would probably be the solution for some kinds of publications.

The next option: establish regional data centers organized around subject interest or geographic areas. Now, you may not be aware that out of these 1,400 libraries, 50 libraries have agreed to take everything, which is a tremendous obligation to take on. Would they have to take all electronic data?

In turn, regionals provide access to their complete collection to all the libraries in their state, so that if a library wishs to select only legislative materials, but a client wants energy, you can send that person to the regional library to get that information.

It costs a lot less money for everyone concerned—the Government and the libraries. But we would have to look at the question of are our regionals those that are in existence right now, the proper libraries to assume this new repsonsibility or not. There probably would have to be some rethinking throughout the whole system.

Another option: provide an intelligent gateway which would allow depositories to acces a number of different data bases with a common, user-friendly interface. We did look at CSIN and other systems, where the user sits at a terminal and can access data bases all over the world.

The Department of Energy showed us what they were doing, where they could go to France and access a data base and go to various places around the United States.

The next option: utilize existing bibliographic utilities and/or commercial data base distributors to provide on-line access to depositories under a government contract. In a situation like this, the Government would then pay the fees that the library would ordinarily have to pay the commercial service or other bibliographic utility.

And then our final suggestion was a combination of the above. We also were very aware that we were not recommending only one way of providing information electronically. We are aware that there are various ways of doing it and some data is done better one way than another.

Then we looked at what options are available for placing equipment in depository libraries. I suppose if we waited long enough, most libraries would eventually get the equipment anyway because there are so many other uses other than government information, we might not have to worry about it.

But we did look at various ways. The first one: Depository libraries could procure their own equipment, as they've done for paper and microfiche. For example, when we provided them with the new Geological Survey maps, those who had to take everything had to go out and buy about $70,000 worth of map storage equipment in order to accept this free gift, which to some of them wasn't so free.

Second, the Government of the United States could provide funds to cover the cost of equipment either through a special appropriation or through normal GPO appropriations for the operation of the depository program.

Third, the Government could consider matching funds on a grant basis, thus sharing the cost of acquiring equipment with the libraries.

Fourth, we could ask foundations, businesses and others to provide grants. Either the depositories themselves could go out and ask for it or organizations representing their interest.

The fifth: Equipment manufacturers could be asked to provide equipment either at a discount due to the volume of purchases or as gifts, and possibly stimulated by tax writeoffs.

Sixth, State and local governments could be asked to support equipment purchases with special appropriations, bonds, or similar measures, particularly since a large number of the depositories are public institutions and the majority of our depository libraries are publicly supported either by State government or city government.

We did address other considerations; for example, the criteria for establishing pilot projects and the criteria for judging the worthwhileness of the pilot projects.

Thank you.

Mr. KLEIS. Now we will have some verbal statements given to us in the order as listed on the agenda. The first statement will be by Russell Shank, Librarian, University of California at Los Angeles, representing the Association of Research Libraries.

Mr. SHANK. It's a pleasure to be here. I am glad to see some of my old friends from Washington days, and also to make this presentation to the Committee. You have the written statement and I believe there would be no value in repeating it. Let me give you some personal views which come from my experience in a number of research libraries, and most lately UCLA.

I believe I will not speak out of turn if I do it personally since I think that a good many of the people with whom I deal in the Association of Research Libraries have the same views.

We are heavily involved in the electronic library business, among other things. The variation, if there is any, amongst us is in large a variation in acronyms. We like to acronyms of our own. My own

system is called ORION. It's called GLADYS at Berkeley, and I think it's ABEL at San Diego. There's NOTIS, UTLAS, and they may do some variable things, but in the main we're all aiming in the same direction.

It's not necessary, I'm sure, for me to remind the audience or the Committee that libraries are, of course, heavy agents in the information business. It may not be all that clear to many people exactly how far libraries have gone in the new electronic world.

It has been mentioned already through the survey that the Committee has done and Ms. Hoduski's report how many libraries are involved in the use of computers. Let me give you some indication from just one library as to the size of this activity.

Our own computing operation, using a large computer for access to machine-readable records which we provide in the main, is now running at just short of $1 million a year in cost. The cost, if you add staff and our use of the external facilities of DIALOG and ORBIT, is running around $1,600,000 a year.

We have about 120 computer terminals attached to our system for internal use only—on-line, real-time access to just short of two million records which we create, and it's growing at the rate of around 50 to 60,000 records a month.

We have some 250 independent users of the system who come at us through microcomputers. We don't know where these are—from home, from their offices. I even called once from Columbus, OH. As long as I could pay the phone bill, nobody seemed to mind.

We have a media learning center with videotapes which is being rebuilt this year to the tune of about $1 million; a language learning lab, which uses the magnetic tapes; and a budding biomedical library media center which is now involved in spreading microcomputer learning resources into the School of Dentistry, Medicine, Social Work, Nursing and Public Health, and is using the laser disk for interactive work in teaching people to—well, I don't know—perform operations. I'm not sure whether they'll take this into the operating rooms with them or whether they're supposed to memorize it, but it's a very important activity.

Altogether, I would suspect that the UCLA campus is putting somewhere between $3 and $5 million into providing access to the electronic media in one way or another. If there is a problem, it is in getting the data bases. Many of them are indeed quite costly. Some are available only on lease, some through the telephone lines, and we have no summary of that cost.

We do know that there are somewhere between 12 and 14,000 requests for information via the telephone line a month for access to this information by students, by the faculty, by researchers at the university, and by another important group—that is, the non-UC-affiliated people who use the library as a resource.

Libraries and academic institutions are heavily used either directly by people who come in off the street or by mail, by scholars from other institutions, or indirectly through telephone services, and so on.

In our case, the State constitution provides that the University of California—that's nine campuses, including UCLA—must provide reasonable access to the collections for qualified scholars.

We do not do much about testing qualifications of people; that's a little arrogant. We do, however, look at how reasonable is their demand. We do close up at 11 at night and open at 8 in the morning, so it's unreasonable to come after closing hours.

This group of outsiders is one that is extraordinarily important to us. We take care of 34,000 students, about 2,500 faculty members, nearly 7,500 researchers, many with Federal contracts.

We have an active list of about 100,000 non-UC users, of whom between 11 and 12,000 are active users at any one time. These are independent scholars, writers, citizens groups, retired teachers in the city of Los Angeles, government officials from the county—from the State, as a matter of fact—people whose backgrounds we do not check.

We are, in essence, a public library, and I believe you will find that the case for many of the research libraries in academic institutions in the country. Many of them, as the report will show, fit into networks already.

In the State of New York, for example, there's the New York State Inter-Library Lending Network which uses the large research libraries of the State as a backstop to provide reference to citizens of the State, not only to the students of those univeristies.

It's quite important to note in the area of electronic information work that the libraries themselves of the land have done an enormous job all by themselves—mainly by themselves.

The Online Computing Library Center, of which I was a member of the board of trustees for 6 years and lately chairman of the board, has been built by the catalogers of the country in libraries. It is now running a business of about $60 million a year, with about 12 million titles on line, with 180 million locations on line, and probably, except for one other facility in the business world, the largest telecommunications network load in the country, all built by librarians.

They are now beginning to work on access to data bases, first bibliographic, then ultimately, we assume, numeric data bases.

This system, OCLC, is now comprised of about 5,000 members with 6,000 terminals. There is another important group, the Research Libraries Group. It's smaller, but has some of the largest libraries in it. It also is a nationwide telecommunications network.

With but five exceptions, as our statement shows, the academic research library members of the Association of Research Libraries are depository libraries. The data we get on deposit is absolutely essential to the learning process, to the teaching process, and then to our services to the community, wherein we find people coming to us because we are neutral ground. We have long hours of service and, generally speaking, we have very, very low fees for access—in many cases, no fees for access—to information that many of these people cannot otherwise pay for.

It is this information which allows them to participate in an active way, and we assume in a useful way, in the Government enterprises, the city planning enterprises, in which they are engaged.

We have been asked why not leave it all to the commercial sector. After all, there isn't a thing which, if it makes money, can't be put up for the public, and the access to this data is quite useful.

Indeed, I don't think we need to suggest that we are competing with business services. We provide at least a minimum service. We provide that which can be made available with a small tax on all of the people.

For example, in the State of California, it costs the citizens of California approximately $1.25 each to provide all of the resources at the University of California Library. We can then provide limited access for people who otherwise cannot afford to pay.

If they want larger services, if they want extensive and continuing services, there are commercial enterprises that can indeed provide this data for them. We do not compete with them.

It seems to me a little incongruous, perhaps a little illogical, but I understand that in the world of politics it's not always logic that wins, that information agencies such as libraries which are heavily involved in providing access to electronics records and data already must try to convince one of the largest holders of this information, this data, to give this material to us.

We already have large resources available to the public in the regular format through Government depository programs. It seems to me a very small shift in mentality to suggest that we should also be able to get the same data, the same information, in the nonprint format without too much further discussion, I hope.

Thank you.

Mr. KLEIS. Thank you.

The next presenter will be Francis Buckley, Director of Technical Services of the Detroit Public Library, representing the American Library Association.

Mr. BUCKLEY. Thank you very much. I'm actually the Assistant Director for Technical Services at the Detroit Public Library. We've been a depository since 1868 and we are one of the regional depositories in Michigan, so we have extensive experience with Government information and patrons using that, coming in to have access to Government documents.

I'm very pleased to be here today on behalf of the American Library Association. I did submit a statement which I will not read in its entirety, but I would like to highlight some of the comments that we would like to make.

The American Library Association has throughout its history taken a very active interest in the library and information activities of the Federal Government because of our belief that citizens should have equal and ready access to unclassified information of public interest or educational value, as well as because of our intimate knowledge of the usefulness and crucial importance of Government information to citizens.

Librarians across the country constantly seek and use Government information not for their own purposes, but as intermediaries for the public. Thus, we are well aware of the diverse interests, information needs and expectations of the public.

We must commend the Joint Committee on Printing for establishing an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the feasibility and desirability of providing access to Federal Government information in electronic formats to depository libraries and for investigating this important issue.

The Ad Hoc Committee is also to be commended for their pioneering work investigating new technological methods of information dissemination, as well as the complexities of decentralized access to this information by citizens and libraries across the country.

There is, we have observed, and I think it's well documented, an accelerating tendency of Federal agencies to use computer and telecommunications technologies for data collection, storage, retrieval, and dissemination. Much Government information is being stored only in electronic format and printed versions are being eliminated.

Access to some Government data files is being provided via contractual agreements with commercial vendors who provide fee-based search services through the sale or lease of tapes or disks, or via the provision of free on-line access such as the Patent Office CASSIS system which is available to patent depository libraries.

In the recent draft circular issued by the Office of Management and Budget on the management of Federal information resources, there is a statement with which we strongly agree, and that is that the use of up-to-date information technology offers opportunities to improve the management of Government programs and access to and dissemination of Government information.

We believe that there should be access through depository libraries to Government information in all formats, interpreting title 44 of the United States Code, section 1901, in a broad sense in the light of new technological ways of publishing.

The present programs for dissemination of printed Government information for public access, while not as coordinated or as efficient as one could wish, do offer a model for meeting Government, public, and private sector interests in Federal information.

The depository library program provides a basic level of free public access to government publications through its network of nearly 1,400 libraries across the country. Government agencies, in addition to that, often provide free dissemination programs to specific constituencies.

Other Federal agencies offer nonprofit cost recovery sales programs. And, lastly, private publishers play a vital role in the process by repackaging, adding value and supplementing the information and by marketing noncopyrighted Government information to reach the widest possible audience.

A base level of free public access to Government information in print or electronic formats is essential to ensuring that all citizens have the opportunity to become informed participants in our democratic society. The depository library program offers them one way to do this.

The American Library Association strongly supports the proposal to develop pilot projects as a necessary step to test alternative modes of delivery and access to Government information in electronic formats.

The Detroit Public Library and Wayne State University Library, both in Detroit and both serving citizens in Detroit and the State, would both be interested in serving as sites for such pilot projects because of the high volume of use we have for Government information.

Thank you.

Mr. KLEIS. Thank you, Fran.

Next, from the University of Houston, we'll hear from Judy Myers, head of the Documents Department.

Ms. MYERS. Thank you, Tom. I think Bernadine probably didn't know at the time she made out this agenda; actually, I have a new title. I'm Director of the Public Service Data Base Project at the University of Houston, which gives some indication of the value that libraries see in electronic information.

As a commentary on Russell Shank's presentation, I'll say that the University of Houston does electronic information on a little bit smaller scale and lower budget than the computer operations at UCLA, but we do have an on-line catalog with its own acronym and we find that it is very heavily used both in-house and by the DIALOG users.

One night 2 weeks ago, they took the on-line catalog down at 2:15 in the morning because they had a whole lot of stuff to do to the data base. Normally, they don't take it down until 2:30. And we had people call in the next day wanting to know why the catalog was down between 2:15 and 2:30 in the morning.

I would like to read part of the proposal that I've submitted to the Committee because I have brought a few copies with me, but I didn't expect this many people, so I don't have enough to give all of you one.

We do have a proposal for a pilot project. It is not in a form that is ready to be implemented, but it is one that is ready to be further developed and perhaps can serve as a basis for discussion.

First, on the introductory part, from the early days of computers, information seekers have dreamed of available, searchable data bases of indexes, texts, numbers and illustrations. These dreams are being realized now.

Better information, more relevant, found more quickly, is expanding the frontiers of knowledge and improving business productivity. The Government information which is available to the public in electronic form is being heavily used. Bibliographic files from ERIC, Department of Energy, NTIS, the Government Printing Office, and many other Federal agencies are available in both printed and in electronic form.

The electronic files are available through data base services such as DIALOG and BRS, and many are also available in libraries, usually as part of an on-line catalog of library holdings.

Most of the present demand is for information which is available in both printed and electronic forms. These forms should not be viewed as equivalents. Even when the content of a print file and an electronic one is identical, the electronic information can be used in ways in which print cannot.

There are presently two primary ways for citizens to gain access to publicly available electronic information—through libraries and through vendors. Libraries increasingly offer an electronic catalog. Libraries also serve as intermediaries between information seekers and data base vendors, recommending relevant data files, performing searches, and providing equipment and instruction.

Libraries are also beginning to provide local access to these data files in order to make the service available to more users and to

reduce the cost to the users. Vendors provide direct access to data files, including many files developed from Government information.

Direct access to these files through vendors is limited to a very small segment of the population. This is true because access requires money, and also considerable skill in information-seeking, since the date is marketed to the vendor's target audience and not to the citizens at large.

Private industry should not only be allowed, but encouraged to provide Government information, to add value, and to market. However, these activities of private industry inevitably result in selection and modification of Government information.

The private sector does not meet the need for a democratic Government to inform its citizens of its actions and activities. Vendor distribution is selective in several ways. Vendors first select the files their market will support. Many available Federal data files are not made available through vendors.

Vendors do not select files for their value to citizens who are interested in monitoring the activities of Government. I'll give you one example that came up last week at our library. We received a frantic call from a law library at a firm in Houston. They were looking for a Senate report.

Their commercial service had provided them with the law, the House report, and a whole bunch of stuff, but not the Senate report. Commercial vendors do select the things that they think will be of most value to their audience, and when they leave out something, which they frequently do, that may turn out to be something that's very badly needed.

The depository library program has proven its worth as a cost-effective means of disseminating Government information to citizens. Depository libraries have proven to be flexible and resourceful in receiving information in whatever format is best suited to the materials—books, pamphlets, posters, microfiche, maps.

Many depositories are also equipped to provide access to other forms of Government information such as audiovisual materials and electronic files. We see these as alternative formats and we believe that a publication should be distributed in an appropriate format.

As a Federal depository, the University of Houston Library is increasingly concerned about citizen access to Government publications in electronic form. We see increasing amounts of Government information becoming available only in electronic form.

We see that citizens are being limited in their access to that information. We welcome the JCP's request for pilot project proposals. We urge the JCP not only to establish pilot projects, but to move quickly. Costs have already dropped dramatically and the need is increasing.

Among the options recommended by the JCP, we favor the distribution of electronic publications to those depository libraries which are willing and able to provide access to the information. We expect that many depositories will prefer not to install large files on their own computers. However, we feel that it is important that all materials be made available to each library, as is the present practice for depository libraries.

The purpose of our proposal is to show that depository libraries can provide public access to Government electronic information with fairly modest computing facilities. We propose to provide a selection of Government files at the University of Houston Library and to provide access to this information to local libraries and to the public at large.

Our proposal includes on-site terminals, plus a number of dial-in lines. We recommend that this project include examples of several types of files, including bibliographic files, full text files, and seminumeric files such as CENDATA.

We further recommend that pilot projects develop means for access to numeric files such as the Census Tapes and graphic information such as topographic maps. We propose this as an example of a regional information center.

In developing a proposed list of data files for a pilot project, we have considered the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee survey of depository libraries. We have consulted with other depository libraries and with users of our library and its depository collection.

We have considered the level of demand and of access which we already have to certain Government electronic files. The bibliographic files which we would most like to have a pilot program in the order of their importance are ERIC, Department of Energy, NTIS, NASA, Child Abuse and Neglect, and Health Planning and Administration. All of these ranked in the top ten on the JCP survey, except the energy file, which is of particular interest in the Houston area.

I would like to mention the Monthly Catalog, which is a file that we consider to be a special case. It is a file that is extremely important to us since it provides access to our depository collection. However, since it is a file of library marked catalog records, we would prefer to place these records in our one-line catalog rather than in the pilot project.

Of the full text files which we would like to see included in pilot projects, we would like to include a set that includes materials on laws, regulations, and certain related materials.

The equipment which we propose for the pilot permits fast, full-text searching of large text files. This would be of particular value for the current law and regulations materials.

The text files which we would most like to see in a pilot program are the current issues of the Congressional Record, Federal Register, slip laws, Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, plus the Code of Federal Regulations and the United States Code. All of these ranked in the top 10 on the JCP survey.

An additional file, TSCA, did not rank as high in the Ad Hoc Committee survey, but it is of great interest to us.

Two seminumeric files ranked in the top 10 in one category of the Ad Hoc Committee survey. These were the Consumer Price Index and the BLS Labor Statistics File. One important file, CENDATA, has been introduced since the survey was taken. We feel that these three are appropriate examples of their type and would be valuable for a pilot project.

We recommend that further development of pilot projects include numeric files, of which we consider the Census files to be most important. The U.S. Geological Survey is developing a pro-

gram to provide U.S. topographic maps on laser disks. We believe that this would greatly improve distribution, accessibility and use of this material. We recommend that this material be added to the pilot project when it is ready for a public use test.

We also recommend that the JCP encourage the development of stages 2 and 3 of the Department of Energy proposal which was presented to the JCP staff in April. These two stages provide for the distribution of the text of technical reports on laser disks.

The Ad Hoc Committee has been in the presentations made to it that libraries and the public can retrieve information from computer files with very modest equipment—a computer or a terminal, preferably with a printer.

A regional data center, such as the University of Houston, would, of course, require more computing and data storage capacity, but still well within the range of the size and cost of present library online catalogs.

A sample equipment configuration which I will read to you in just a minute—we show that a great deal of data and an extensive research capacity can be provided on a relatively modest computer system. Additional data and terminal capacity can be provided by upgrading to a larger computer.

What we propose is a MicroVAX II or a VAX 11/730. This is the smallest drill VAX, and the MicroVAX II is one that's coming out right now that's compatible with it—one magnetic tape drive two magnetic disk drives, eight terminals, one printer, seven modems, five Clasix 2000 optical datadrives—these are drives for laser disks—one GESCAN Text Array Processor.

The equipment configuration is designated to reduce the cost of producing laser disk masters. Since the first master is expensive, copies are very inexpensive. We propose that file updates be stored on the magnetic disk drives for 1 to 3 months before the data is transferred to laser disks. The tape drive is proposed for loading data which is received on tape.

An important component of the proposed equipment is a text array processor, which greatly reduces the reponse time for searches on large files, permits searching of both structured and unstructured full-text files, and reduces the data storage need by approximately 50 percent, since separate files of indexes are not required.

By using a text array processor, the computer only has to handle communications and data transfer from the disks to the processor and the processor to the terminals. Most of the processor power of the computer is available for tasks such as manipulating census data.

Further development of pilot project proposals: Our objective with this present version of a proposal is to show what is possible, feasible and needed. Further development of the concepts and details will be necessary to create a proposal to be implemented.

Further development is needed in the area of a structure for participating organizations and their relationships. Further development is needed on the particular specifications—the individual files to be used, the specific equipment. Further development and discussion is needed on how support would be provided—what would come from the institution, what would come from other sources.

Further development is needed for an evaluation plan. Beyond a pilot program, we believe that all public government information in electronic form should be provided to libraries and provided to the public.

We have serious reservations about programs which involve transmission of data on request from various Federal agencies. We have seen too often that federal programs of this type which require continuing funding by an agency for service to the public are among the first to go when funding gets tight.

When access is cut off, the justification is usually the budget, but the result is censorship. Several presentations to the Ad Hoc Committee revealed an additional concern which we share that telecommunications costs are a barrier to access. These costs are a barrier now when the information being delivered is a few pages of bibliographic citations or selected sections of text. It will be much greater when the requester needs the full text of several technical reports.

I imagine that was a whole lot harder for the Committee to follow than it was for me because I was skipping around in the printed text.

Mr. KLEIS. I think we understood it. Thank you.

The next presenter is representing the Government Documents Round Table of the American Library Association, and that's Carol Turner, who is Chief Librarian of the Jonsson Library of Government Documents at Stanford University.

Ms. TURNER. Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the report and its recommendations on behalf of the Government Documents Round Table.

The Round Table is very interested in the issues being discussed today. In January, its members approved a resolution that endorses the Ad Hoc Committee's support for the principle that the Federal Government should provide access to Federal information in electronic form through the depository library system.

The resolution also supports the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation that pilot projects be undertaken. The appointment of members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases, the completion of its report, and the anticipated establishment of pilot projects are very positive steps toward ensuring that citizens continue to have access to information that has been gathered, organized or created by agencies of the Federal Government using taxpayer funds.

Since the 19th century, public access to Government information in printed form has been provided through federal depository libraries. Since the late 1970's, Government information in microfiche format has also been made available in depository libraries. This incorporation of a new technology into an established program made it possible to increase greatly the amount of information that could be made available to the public through depository libraries, and to do it at a very reasonable cost.

Today, electronic technology is creating a revolution in our understanding of information, communication, and publication. This presents new challenges and new opportunities for those of us who are engaged in providing access to Government information for our library users.

We are looking again at the kinds of information that should be provided through the depository library system. It is essential that we not lose sight of what is important here. The focus must remain on the information and not on its format.

Federal Government information is important to citizens, whether it is in book, microfiche or computer tape format. Information that is only stored in electronic format should not be inaccessible simply because of its format. I'm afraid that we may be emphasizing the format too much because it's new and unfamiliar.

U.S. Federal depository collections are housed in libraries that vary in terms of size, geographic location, institutional setting, and clientele interest and sophistication.

A common element among those libraries is the desire of staff to provide their users with the information they need as rapidly and cost-effectively as possible. The kind and extent of information needed and the format in which it can be used vary from library to library.

For example, librarians from a variety of depository and nondepository libraries have long expressed a need to have access to accurate, retrospective and current bibliographic records from the Government Printing Office for reference service, verification and cataloging.

Many libraries do have access to cataloging records through bibliographic utilities and to the GPO's sales reference file through commercial data bases. But this access is not free and it is not available to all depository libraries and their users.

Among the information most frequently sought by those using Federal Government documents collections is up-to-date information on public laws, Congressional bills, and agency regulations. This kind of information is ideal for storage and retrieval in a data base because of its volume, the need to constantly integrate new information, and the value of multiple access points.

Having such data bases available in depository libraries would be an excellent way to provide public access to this information and to foster citizen knowledge and participation in government.

Much Government information is now being stored only in electronic format because it is so voluminous that machine storage and manipulation is the only feasible way of using it. This includes vast statistical files such as those produced by a decennial census which are available in magnetic tape format. This data, which can only be produced by Federal agencies, is invaluable to researchers. It would be useful to have access to it through the depository library system.

The information needs that I've outlined are best met through a variety of electronic formats. For example, retrospective bibliographic records and other files that are not updated frequently might be stored on optical disks sent to individual libraries. Information that is frequently updated, such as status of legislation or bibliographic records for newly released titles, is best located in an on-line data base.

Computer tapes that must be loaded on a mainframe or minicomputer for data to be manipulated and analyzed are appropriate for large statistical files used in research.

It is important that these and other formats be examined in pilot projects. Because of the varying needs of depository libraries and the rapid changes in the technology, the approach should be flexible and the pilot projects should encompass varied technologies, kinds of information, and kinds of library clientele served.

In summary, I want to reaffirm the Government Documents Round Table's strong support for the resolution adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee on February 2, 1984. That resolution both affirms the principle that the Federal Government should provide access to Federal information in the electronic form to the depository library system and recommends that the economic feasibility of this be investigated through pilot projects.

Mr. KLEIS. Thank you, Carol.

Next, from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Richard Leacy, who is also a member of the Ad Hoc Committee and head of the Government Documents and Maps Department at the Georgia Institute of Technology, will read a statement for Miriam Drake, Director of Libraries.

Mr. LEACY. Miriam Drake initially had hoped to be here today and deliver this statement herself. The first-person references are therefore to her [begins reading statement].

I am Director of Libraries at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. Georgia Tech's undergraduate and graduate degree-granting programs and sponsored research work cover the applied sciences, engineering, business, economics, architecture, and city planning. Georgia Tech has a general faculty of 1,400 and a student body of 11,000.

Last year, the value of our sponsored research was approximately $100 million. Our library is one of the largest scientific and technical libraries in the nation. I am here today to support the inclusion of information in electronic format in the distribution system of the depository library program, as recommended in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases.

The Georgia Tech Library's information resources support teaching and research programs in Georgia, as well as business and industry, other academic institutions, and the general public in the southeastern United States. As the administrator of that library, I am particularly concerned about the public availability of information produced by the Federal Government.

There are two primary reasons for my supporting dissemination of electronic information in the depository library program. The first is the opportunity to use information technology to provide information more cost-effectively for the Federal Government, library distributors and information seekers and users.

The cost of paper copy production, distribution, maintenance and use is considerably more expensive than the cost of producing and using electronic information. The Government, as producer and initial distributor of this information, incurs millions of dollars of cost that could be saved if the data were made available in machine-readable form and distributed on-line or on optical disks.

Libraries, responsible for making paper copy information available to the public, must set aside hundreds of feet of shelving and floor space. Additional costs include material and record process-

ing, finding, retrieving, and maintaining the paper copy and the maintenance of physical plant.

Academic institutions and government at all levels are increasingly reluctant to invest millions of dollars and use valuable land to house hundreds of volumes of paper. From the consumer's perspective, paper copy is expensive to use. First, the physical item must be located, appropriate data found, pages photocopied, and data entered into the user's computer.

This process is time consuming and expensive when the value of the user's time and the value of alternative uses of time are considered.

The process of transferring machine-readable data from an online computer or optical disk to a floppy disk or other entry device will consume less time and increase the productivity of user and library staff.

We can no longer afford to maintain comprehensive paper warehouses or the current unproductive methods of data distribution and use.

The second reason for my supporting the inclusion of electronic files in the depository library program is to ensure the availability of information to meet the needs of students, faculties, researchers, the business community, and the general public.

Increasingly, more information produced by the Federal Government is or will be available exclusively in machine-readable forms. Agencies such as the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the National Institutes of Health and the Departments of Defense and Agriculture can no longer afford to distribute data on paper and are relying increasingly on electronic formats.

Acknowledgement by the Executive Branch of the scope of use of electronic information is inherent in the Office of Management and Budget's Management of Federal Information Resources Notice and Request for Public Comment appearing in the March 15, 1985, issue of the Federal Register.

Of particular interest is the statement appearing on page 10736, "The federal information systems and technology budget, which was $14 billion in fiscal year 1985, is projected to increase at a rate faster than that of the overall Federal budget. With outlays at these levels and agencies becoming increasingly dependent on information technology to accomplish their mission, it is essential that planning processes be applied to the acquisition and application of information technology."

The issue for depository libraries and the constituencies they serve in every state, county and city is the availability of that electronic information which correctly belongs to the public domain.

The national economy now is based on information, applied science and technology, and on the distribution of the goods and services which they produce. Applied science and technology are dependent on the currency of information about research in the laboratory and its applications in the marketplace.

Business and industry require data about all phases of the United States and foreign economies. The Federal Government is the primary source of information in all of these areas for the United States. Only the Federal Government has the distribution

mechanism to disseminate the information it has created to all sectors and geographic areas of the country.

The educational, business and industrial communities comprise a large portion of users of information produced by the Federal Government. These communities rely on libraries for that data.

Increasingly, these communities want that information in electronic format rather than ink on paper. The depository library program is the primary mechanism by which Federal information is disseminated. Therefore, it is essential that this program include machine-readable data files, whether they be transmitted on-line by telecommunications or by mailed optical disk or tape. Information format should not be a barrier to its inclusion in the depository library program.

Distribution of federally produced, machine-readable data files will ensure that people have access to the data they need. In addition, significant savings can be realized by Government and libraries, while increasing the productivity of data users. Federal policy must support the information economy and provide for appropriate information dissemination.

Mr. KLEIS. Thank you, Richard.

Next, from OCLC, Inc., we'll hear from Jeanne Isacco.

Ms. ISACCO. Good afternoon. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak this afternoon. I work for the On-Line Computer Library Center located in Columbus, OH. But lest anybody think that's my only connection with this Committee, I am the former Chair of the Government Documents Round Table of ALA, and also a past Chair of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer. So my interest in Government documents goes a long way back.

OCLC is the largest not-for-profit provider of bibliographic information in the world. It is a library membership organization with over 6,000 participants in 50 States and a growing number of international participants. OCLC has an expanding membership of libraries of all sizes and types. I'd like to say that we have everybody from Harvard to Irving Public, and I'm sure Tony will be interested in that analogy since I did include Texas on your behalf.

Over 68 percent of the depository libraries are members of OCLC. We have actively followed the deliberations of this Committee for the past two years. OCLC strongly supports both the concept of providing access to Federal information in electronic format to the depository library system and the concept of determining economic implications through pilot projects.

OCLC currently is expanding the scope of its services to libraries. We have investigated various intelligent gateway facilities and expect to enter into a contractual arrangement with one of them shortly.

This facility will enable us to provide access to a wide variety of data bases or information providers. Thus, we can expand OCLC services to reference librarians, and certainly to the depository and documents community. And we will provide, I think, an attractive option to Federal agencies who have no active way of providing direct access to depository libraries.

We will be well placed to be an active participant in your pilot projects program. The not-for-profit organization option will be an

interesting one to contrast with the public and private sector options.

Our intelligent gateway will be in operation in early 1986. We think that fits nicely into the time frame for the JCP pilot projects. OCLC has a 15-year history of serving libraries successfully. We are expanding and growing and we welcome the opportunity to be a part of this historic project, and look forward to working with the Joint Committee on Printing and this Committee.

Thank you.

Mr. KLEIS. Thank you, Jeanne.

Is there anyone else who would like to make some remarks for the record—I guess a mini-statement, if you will—before we open the discussion?

Mr. ROSENBERG. Will you allow members of the Ad Hoc Committee to make statements?

Mr. KLEIS. I think you should ask the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. ROSENBERG. How do you prefer it?

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, I would prefer to get statements from the audience and then the Ad Hoc Committee can say whatever they like.

Mr. KLEIS. Are there any further statements from the audience?

[No response.]

Mr. KLEIS. Ken, would you like to make a statement for the record?

Mr. ROSENBERG. Yes.

Mr. KLEIS. Why don't you identify yourself?

Mr. ROSENBERG. Ken Rosenberg, NTIS.

This statement is offered out of my own concern and one which is not to be construed as made by a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, and it reads as follows.

As an ancient librarian, long-time taxpayer, and concerned Government employee, I have yet to see any substantive evidence which can prove the claims that depository libraries have proven their worth or that the existence of depository libraries is essential for the maintenance of an informed populace.

Before you throw your darts, I'd like to finish.

I believe that depository libraries, like the Statute of Liberty, Disneyland, and so forth, have value, but that that value has remained based on intuition and emotion. Therefore, speaking for myself, I believe that the Joint Committee on Printing has two agenda items which probably should precede the establishment of the pilot projects under discussion.

The first is a study to be carried out by an independent professional research organization to determine the actual cost-benefit relationship of the depository library system as it currently exists.

The second agenda item, which may well be carried out concurrently, should be the attempt to enact legislation which will mandate that all Federal Government contractors and grantees provide their contractually-required information in a standard electronic format.

The completion of these two agenda items would give credence to the depository library program, and should the Government elect to provide information in electronic form to depository libraries,

the costs of so doing would be greatly diminished and the speed of provision immensely enhanced.

Thank you.

Mr. KLEIS. Thank you, Ken.

I think now we have a chance to do some questions and answers, and I'd like Bernadine, as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, to act as sort of the Chair of this discussion. So anyone having questions or wanting to make any comments, please do so now.

Ms. HODUSKI. If you would please come up to the microphone because it's difficult for the reporter to hear you.

Mr. GANLEY. I'm John Ganley, Chief of the Economics Division at the Research Libraries at New York Public.

I think all the discussion that has gone on up to Mr. Rosenberg's statement was very interesting and informative, and yours was very interesting. To be more informative, what I'd like to find out is what your alternatives are.

Mr. ROSENBERG. What my alternatives are?

Mr. GANLEY. Yes.

Ms. HODUSKI. To the depository library program.

Mr. ROSENBERG. My alternatives, I thought I expressed as being essentially to have a study done to determine whether, in fact, the depository library as it exists is the most efficient way to providing information to the public. I have no alternative until I would see such a study.

Ms. HODUSKI. Don't be shy. I'm sure there are a lot of you who have some ideas you'd like to share. What about some of your other depository libraries? What do you think about the proposal for the pilot projects or Ken's proposal for studying the program?

Ms. CLARK. My name is Marie Clark and I am the head of the Public Documents and Maps Department at Duke University Library in Durham, North Carolina. I've had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Rosenberg before and having dinner with him. I might want to meet him someplace else at the moment—in the alley or something of that sort.

Ms. HODUSKI. Could you please move a little bit closer to the microphone?

Ms. CLARK. Sure.

Mostly, I would like to make a few comments saying that I came here today with the support of my library director to say that Duke University is very interested in becoming a participant in any pilot project. We think that we are in an excellent geographical location to carry out that kind of a project, being in the research triangle park area.

I'm very interested in Judy Myers' proposal, and certainly would like to talk to her further about her suggestions about the depository program and the pilot project that she suggests. I do think that this is an exceptionally important thing to follow through on, and I do not agree with Mr. Rosenberg that we have another study.

Especially, I feel if we have another study done by a private organization, we will end up with a recommendation to give this information to the private vendor, and we already know what the problems of that are, as Judy pointed out very succinctly.

So I would like to simply state my support and my library's support to move forward with this program, and to move forward

quickly. I think we've talked about this enough. The issue is not whether we ought to do it, but the practical matter of how we're going to go about doing it.

Thank you.

Mr. KLEIS. I'd like to add something to your remarks and to address Ken's concern to some degree. The Joint Committee on Printing has asked the Office of Technology Assessment, the Government Printing Office, and the GAO to cooperate, which they've agreed to do, in a long-range study of the Government Printing Office, which we hope to have the results of in about 18 months.

Part of that study will be looking at the needs of GPO's constituency, including depository libraries, and what kind of information they will be wanting and how best to give it to them. So that might have some bearing on Ken's statement.

Judy, did you want to say something?

Ms. ROWE. I'd like to ask particularly representatives of depository libraries who are here to provide us with some assistance in answering two questions. One question is to what extent are you equally prepared to provide access to full-text and statistical files, as well as to bibliographic files.

I think there's no question that you've all had lots of experience providing access to bibliographic files; that you do it well, and, given more files, will do it equally well. But I think some specific comments on full-text and statistical files, and providing access to those, would be relevant.

And the other question, which is certainly not limited to those of your from depository libraries, is what suggestions do you have on how these files—should they come directly from the agencies? Should they all come from GPO? Should they come from special contracting services, et cetera? What thoughts do you people have on these matters?

Mr. KLEIS. Any comments?

Mr. LEACY. Yes. I'd like to make some response to that. As far as the full text is concerned, as Judith, I'm sure, knows, on BRS both the Harvard Business Review is up on line full text and the American Chemical Society has 18 of their publications also on line, multiyear, full text.

The American Chemical Society is also preparing to test a project in 1986, putting the journals that are presently available full-text onto laser-read optical disks. This will allow on-site complete-text searching, as well as print on demand.

To go to the statistical question, I think probably one of the greatest areas of information demand that depository libraries meet is for statistical data. Usually, in every depository library, the most heavily used publication is the volume of the census for that State.

In the Georgia Institute of Technology, because of our work and our need not only for information in paper copy but also information in text format so that it can be manipulated, the library this past January subscribed to the Wharton Econometrics Forecasting Associates files. We subscribed to everything, right across the board, that they have up on line.

The policy is that for students and faculty doing academic work, the library pays the cost of accessing the data. They do not get

paper copy when we access the data. They come in with a disk. We sit down with them, go through the descriptive information from the data banks, select what they need, and they depart with the data that they want on a disk, and it has worked out very effectively. There is no problem with it.

To do this—I happen to be the one who does it—I use an IBM PC XT. It's a very simple process and, all told, considering the amount of time that is required for them to review the descriptive information about the data banks, I would say to do a search may require 30 minutes. The actual on-line time is probably around 5 minutes.

So I think that as we see computer equipment coming into depository departments themselves, and the availability of PC's in the library, there should be no particular problem, and I think it would greatly enhance the information dissemination capabilities and needs of the constituencies served by the depository libraries.

Ms. GARNER. My name is Diane Garner. I'm at Pennsylvania State University Library, and I have to disagree with you, Mr. Leacy. I think most of the published literature shows that librarians for the most part do not know how to manipulate numeric files; that we require a great deal of user-friendly software.

At my university, we buy a lot of numeric files from the Government, but the librarians don't manipulate them. The researchers themselves have to go and provide their own software to get at them, and I don't know anybody in my library who knows how.

And I think this kind of use is going to require some massive education. Most of us here are representing university libraries or large public libraries with probably the more highly trained staff among librarians. An awful lot of depository libraries are very small, with not even a full-time staff devoted to the depository functions of the library.

So I think that we want very much to do it; Penn State wants to participate in these pilot projects, but I think it's going to require massive education and a massive effort on our part.

As far as who should provide these things, I've been thinking a lot about this and I really am a little bit ambivalent. The commercial sector has succeeded for the most part in providing the most user-friendly services with which most of us are familiar. We can all search on DIALOG and, you know, we can use CENDATA and those kinds of data bases because the commercial vendors have provided the software to make them easy to use for us.

I can't manipulate the census tapes and the things that come directly from the Government because that software doesn't already exist for me. So I think that has to be looked at.

On the other hand, frequently when things come through vendors, there is a long delay in getting them. The last time I accessed CENDATA, its latest update was the same date as our paper copy, so there's really not much point in that. So there's that problem there. I think those things have to be looked at.

Mr. LEACY. May I make a comment about that?

Mr. KLEIS. Yes.

Mr. LEACY. I would agree with your statement, or at least with what is the basic implication inherent in the phasing "massive education." There is a reluctance on the part of librarians to use an information format with which they are often uncomfortable and

technology with which they feel unfamiliar. That has been explored rather extensively in a recent book called "Numeric Data Bases."

The training program that was required for us to learn how to use the Wharton files—and I'm not an econometrician; I don't do statistical modeling or that type of thing—but to allow us to access the material down where the user needs it lasted for 2 days. It was not dissimilar from normal computer training that we have gone through with other vendors.

We did go through the same, shall we say, adjustment period that we went through with everything else. There tends to be a great deal of fear. However, we found that once the training took place, the fear went away. What people were really afraid of was the unknown, and that is really the basic problem in all of this.

We have trained all of the reference librarians and all of the librarians in the information exchange center, and there's no particular problem with it.

Ms. HODUSKI. Barbara?

Ms. SMITH. My name is Barbara Smith. I'm from Skidmore College Library in Saratoga Springs, NY. You don't have to be a large research library to understand how important access to federal information is.

And, Ken, your statement is like waving a red flag to this little old lady in tennis shoes. I happen to have heels on today, but ordinarily I'm running around in a library in my tennis shoes.

We are a small college, but my administration supports our depository program to the greatest extent possible. We serve the college community and the entire Congressional district.

We find that it costs three cents per capita in our area for our depository library program. That is the best use of my tax money I have ever seen, and I'd be glad to give them a nickel.

I just find that kind of reasoning that the depository library program does not have value just mindboggling. It has incredible value. The depository library program is that part of our national information policy that OMB has not yet managed to ruin. And if all the depository librarians in this group have not responded to OMB's draft circular, for God's sake, get your Senators, your Congressmen, anybody who can write and talk to OMB so that we continue to have access to government information for all of us.

Remarking to Judith Rowe's comment about statistical files, again, I'm from a small college and I haven't had a training program yet in use of statistical files. But it's perfectly obvious to us that if we don't get access to on-line statistical files, we aren't going to even have statistical information.

A specific example is the library statistics. Libraries all over the country—small ones, large ones, research libraries—fill out long forms for the National Center for Education Statistics. What do we get back now? We get library statistics in aggregate form only. We no longer receive individual library data. We can do no kind of comparison.

And if you call the National Center for Education Statistics, because it says there that if you need more information, call them, you get an absolute Mickey Mouse situation, as I did where I had to talk to at least three different people who said, oh, is that state-

ment still in there? The person in charge of that is on leave, I guess; let me see what I can do.

It took several days for my librarian and myself to track down the fact that we could, by paying "x" number of dollars, get information about each college. Now, it's my understanding that, I think, the Association of Research Libraries, through a Freedom of Information request, got the material and there is a publication now that gives individual statistics.

I think this is really alarming, and this is what's happening to our ability to access information. The shrinking of statistical data is just incredibly striking, and so I certainly hope that we will be able to get on-line access.

I think that the Committee should be commended for an excellent report and I hope to see the pilot projects underway as soon as possible. I hope the University of Houston is right up there because Judy Myers, I think, has done more for the depository library community with her work in trying to get the Government Printing Office Monthly Catalog tapes cleaned up and the kind of work she does in documenting the problems and coming up with solutions.

A lot of us can complain, but not all of us come up with really well-worked-out documented programs, and I'm sure all of the pilot projects that the Committee has received have this kind of information and I hope that we will see some of these as soon as possible. Then we can go back to Ken and say, hey, we have really got cost-effective depository library service.

Ms. HODUSKI. I think Ken would like to respond to some of these things, but I'll just interject one comment. I don't disagree with Ken's suggestion that there be a cost-benefit study because in my experience of looking at, it seems like thousands of depository libraries that I've visited around the country, a cost-benefit study would be beneficial to the system to show that the information is being used. So I don't think the suggestion is necessarily a detrimental one, no matter what the size of the institutions.

I never see anything wrong with looking at the situation. If the libraries are doing a good job, which I think that most of them are, then this kind of a study would not hurt the libraries.

Mr. ROSENBERG. I just wanted to say that I think what I said is being somewhat misconstrued. I didn't say, I don't think, that depository libraries don't have value. I said, in fact, I thought that they did have value, but that that value has yet empirically to be determined.

And your 3 cents, I'm sure, are well spent. I'll be happy to give you 3 cents to help out, but your 3 cents is simply, I assume, 3 cents in your own community. I'm not sure what the per capita cost is for the depository library system as a whole. It's probably quite low, but that doesn't necessarily mean that for whatever that low amount, we couldn't have a better depository library system, were something else offered in its stead.

Ms. HODUSKI. I would like to hear from some agency people. We haven't heard from any agency publishers. Do we have one?

Mr. DAVIS. I'm Bill Davis, and I really want to wear two hats for a few minutes. The first one is I work for Internal Revenue; they pay my salary. We saw our name on your chart and it said Internal Revenue Service for information, and you have to be a little

more specific with that because we have an incredible amount of information.

One of the things that we currently provide already is to commercial services, anyway, the Internal Revenue Manual, which is maintained and kept current. And the way we go about approaching that is we require the contractor who publishes that, who is R.R. Donnelly, to sell the files at a very inexpensive rate. A full set of the Internal Revenue Manual now is about $5,000.

If we were required to give that away—what I'm trying to lead to is if you're going to require us to make this information available in some other form than the printed copy, you're going to have to have some scheme for giving us the finances to pay for it because it's not cheap.

We provided to a number—and I don't have the number offhand because I didn't expect to have this type of a presentation today—but a significant number of commercial services, again, of the major tax information. The cost of that to the Internal Revenue Service per supplier was $1,000, and if we had to give that away to some 4,000 libraries or make that available on-line, it would be very significant.

We have one of the largest printing budgets in the Executive side of the Government, anyway. So we have to know what information you want. Basically, most of our major stuff is already on file and can be made available if anybody wanted them or required them, but we have to also have a way of recovering that cost in such a way that it comes back into our printing budget and doesn't go into the general fund, which is the normal way of supplying the information.

Now, to switch hats, I also serve a role with American National Standards, X3V1.8. I'm the chairman of that committee. I'm the acting chairman of the international group, which is TC97SC-18, working group 8, and our role is to produce a language for text description and processing. It gets into what Ken was saying earlier.

For those of you who work with text, one of the things that is required is while numeric files are relatively straightforward and easy to handle, text files aren't, and in my role as chairman of this committee I'd like to encourage the library community and others to latch on to what is now a draft international standard, which is the standard generalized mark-up language. Its number is DIS-8879.

I just came back from Germany about 2 weeks ago, chairing the meeting over there, and it's encouraging—in fact it's amazing, the amount of work being done in the European Community on standard generalized mark-up language. They recognize the value of having the structure and the intelligence of the text, in addition to just the full text, the words themselves. That's about all.

Ms. MYERS. Can you leave that citation so we know where we can get a copy of that?

Mr. DAVIS. The way you get a copy—well, let's see. It's draft international standard 8879. I could give you one, but I could only give a few out. The way you would get it is to write to ANSI in New York. It'll be published some time in August. The current version that's available is draft number 10. The difference between draft number 10 and what will be the DIS is a few minor technical

changes and basically some rewording to clear up some language problems.

Ms. MYERS. What's the number?

Mr. DAVIS. It hasn't got one yet. It's at the first level within ANSI. You could write to CBEMA, right across the street here, and they'll supply a copy of that.

Ms. HODUSKI. I just might comment that when the libraries were identifying IRS, there were general areas of information they were interested in. We didn't ask them to necessarily specifically identify one specific data base.

But, also, I wanted to clarify that the Congressional appropriations which support the Superintendent of Documents program—they're the ones who ask for the funds for the depository library program—pay for the additional cost of a depository program. It's not like asking the agencies to pay the whole freight.

Of course, each agency is set up differently; you'd have to deal differently with each agency's publishing program and electronic program. But right now, many, many IRS publications are going out to the libraries, and that's being paid for by Congressional appropriations and not by IRS' appropriations.

Mr. KLEIS. And, of course, the ones you have waivers for that you do on your own, you have to provide the depository copies.

Ms. HODUSKI. None of us here had anything to do with writing 1902 and 1903 of title 44, but it does very clearly say that if you produce a publication through the Government Printing Office, the Congress will pick up the tab. But if you produce it through your own facilities, then you, the agency, have to pick up the tab. Obviously, our predecessors had something in mind when they wrote the language that way. I don't think I have to explain it any further.

I think that I saw some other hands earlier. Did everyone—okay, sorry.

VOICE. I'm here on behalf of the Association of American Publishers in Carol Risher's place. Carol is the director of copyright and new technology. Where I have my problem dealing with copyright is when these copies of things are made, what are the other implications so far as other persons not subscribing to Federal Register and Congressional Record and all these other publications.

We have problems with just textbooks from time to time—people get copies through on-line data bases, whereas publishers and publishing companies and authors are not receiving their royalty payments. Who's going to handle subscription costs and things like that in the event that people no longer purchase books and just pay the contact charge or connection charge for on-line data bases?

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, the majority of Government publications, particularly the Federal Register, are not copyrighted. So if any private citizen, company or otherwise, takes that information, they are quite free to copy it and produce it and resell it themselves, but that does not mean that they can copyright the contents of those publications. So I'm not quite sure exactly——

VOICE. That was my main problem. I'm not sure how Government documents are handled. That's why I asked the question.

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, Government documents, by law, are available to the citizens to reproduce, once they've been initially produced or

issued by the Government, and then any citizen can reproduce them. But they're never copyrighted because they are the property of the citizens of this country.

Now, the copyright that you may see would be format. For example, you're copyrighting the certain way that the information is distributed. For example, the Congressional Information Service sends things out in microfiche and they have a copyright of the format, but the contents are not copyrighted.

Mr. ROSENBERG. Bernadine, just to expand on that a little bit, there are international copyrights that are granted on specific Government publications, but they have no effect in this country. Many Government documents published for use in this country do contain copyrighted material, but they are on waiver from the copyright owner.

Ms. HODUSKI. Right. Well, for example, the Congressional Record would have extension of remarks that have some copyrighted material, or other scientific agencies would distribute things that have copyright; they have the permission.

It gets rather complicated. The majority of Government information generated by the Government or paid for by the Government is not copyrighted.

Mr. ELLSBURY. Jack Ellsbury from NTIS. We have continuing concerns about the costs in this electronic information area. I think as you work in the pilot programs, it's pretty essential to examine not only how might the information be made available, but what are the costs of the various alternatives to try and achieve, I suppose, the least costly way of doing this—ways that will work at more than one library; hopefully, some uniformity to the way of making material available.

I suspect the video disks offer a pretty good solution there. Telecommunications charges tend to be prohibitive for full-text types of things. They work well for the bibliographic end of it, but not so well for full text.

Again, I think it's looking at what is the cost and how can the services, the information, be delivered in a least costly way.

Ms. HODUSKI. We believe that our recommendations on pilot projects should be designed to test the cost of using various methods of disseminating the information. We had one sheet in the back of the report to estimate the cost of doing it if you had the paper or traditional format or the microfiche format, versus electronic and the various ways of disseminating electronically.

We would hope that the pilot projects would show us if there is a cost savings not just on the side of the Government, but on the side of the library also. Of course, there are other costs involved.

I think the patent depository program is a good example. If the Patent Office were to open up offices in those 50 locations where they have librarians who are not being paid by the Federal Government to help the inventors when they come in, the amount of staff that they would have to hire and the amount of time would simply increase the budget tremendously.

Here, they are actually getting free employees, paid for by someone else, for a very small investment. The other alternative would that all inventors would have to come to Washington, or all inves-

tors would have to pay legal services or others to come and do research for them.

So you have to look at the whole package of all of the expenses involved, including not just the cost of using the new technology, but the cost of using old technology and using human beings. That's one of the things that we seem to be getting fewer and fewer of in the Federal Government, at least in some agencies—fewer human beings.

So we're looking to new technologies to replace that former human labor or to expand services to a growing population. We hope that our pilot projects could look at that aspect of it, also. We believe that the patent depository system actually is a functioning system that could be studied even now to see what the cost-benefit ratio is.

Mr. ELLSBURY. Yes. I think it is essential, and the success of it, given the strong competition for funds from various kinds of things today, will make things difficult if a least costly method isn't implemented here.

Thank you.

Ms. HODUSKI. Thank you.

Mr. HARVEY. My name is Tony Harvey and I'd like to respond to Ken's Machiavellian comments following the statements of our various witnesses. I think one of the quickest ways to kill any project is to recommend more studies and to include in the requirements of those studies benefit-to-cost ratios, cost effectiveness studies, and throw in, as always, standards.

I think the depository library system is part of the fundamental nature of our representative system and the notion of doing a cost effectiveness study of providing Government information through the depository library system is, to me, bizarre.

The depository libraries house, process, and service all these Government publications in whatever format pro bono. They do so in the context of a larger collection of many other types of items, many related directly and indirectly to what students, researchers, the public, the press, inventors, whoever, are after.

The library and information community in the public library system, the university library system, the not-for-profit research system, provide these services from an egalitarian public service philosophy. It is not the philosophy of either the Government or the private sector, where the philosophy is power and profits.

On the question of standards, 15 or 20 years ago when the computer industry and communications and the related technology were very primitive, whether or not data were in a single, prescribed format could be devastating to people trying to use it. Now we're in a very mature computer and communications and software environment.

The interchangeability or the convertibility of data in the widest variety of formats is done day in and day out right now, and I wouldn't by that statement want to in any way speak against standards or standards efforts. I think those are invaluable; they reduce the costs and make it easier for everyone to share in the interchange of data.

I think any of these objections that Ken has introduced at this late date are objections that could delay forever trying to go for-

ward with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee to the Joint Committee on Printing.

Ms. HODUSKI. Sandy, did you want to make a statement?

Ms. MCANINCH. Sandra McAninch, University of Kentucky Libraries, Head of Government Publications. However, I am here out of the generosity of the dean of the graduate school. He is very interested in our participating in a pilot project, and my primary reason for being here is to know what it is we need to do to present a proposal.

Are there going to be certain requirements that we need to fulfill? Are there going to be any forms, that kind of thing? If not, at least some guidance on what we should consider; whether we should be looking at your list of alternatives. Are those the only ones you want the pilot projects to be involved with?

So I guess I came to the meeting hoping to get a little more information from the Committee on how to respond.

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, the Ad Hoc Committee itself has agreed to continue in existence—at least I think that's what they agreed to this morning—and to help to further develop the criteria that we listed in our report.

But, also, we were hoping that the Government publishers and the librarians themselves would come forward with some ideas about criteria and who should be included. That was the idea of the open forum, to get you all to share your ideas with us.

A number of you have made proposals, things that you would like included, but one of the things that I haven't really seen a lot of is proposals on how many members there should be in pilot projects and where they should be located. These were the kinds of suggestions that we were hoping to get from the library community, which we have gotten from some.

Perhaps the word has not gotten out to everyone as yet, and we're still expecting other statements which I have been told by phone will be coming with further proposals.

VOICE. Do you have a deadline for the receipt of those proposals?

Ms. HODUSKI. Just those preliminary ideas—we were hoping to get them now or in the near-term future. As far as the specific, larger proposals, we haven't really decided on the time frame for getting those.

Mr. KLEIS. Let me add here, Bernadine, that the Ad Hoc Committee, as I said earlier, will make recommendations to the Joint Committee on Printing at some point after they evaluate the comments on this meeting. And the members of the Joint Committee will, I think, at that point determine how we go about seeking pilot projects and, you know, discuss amongst themselves the time frame that might be required or that might be desirable to get these proposals in.

So I think really the Ad Hoc Committee has to digest what it heard today and, again, make recommendations to the membership of the Joint Committee on Printing for them to decide how to proceed at that point.

Ms. HODUSKI. Part of the object of this meeting, also, was to get Federal publishers, those who produce the information and disseminate it, to think about what they're producing and how they're

producing it, and perhaps make proposals as to a possible pilot project.

I know that any number of agency people have expressed an interest in providing their electronic data to the public in a cost-effective manner, and one of the ways that this can be done is through the depository library program. There are other ways through commercial vendors and nonprofit organizations, also.

So we have never thought of the depository library program as the only mechanism for disseminating Government information, but it is one of those mechanisms and there are others that will coexist, and that's the way it's been for the last hundred years and I'm sure it will continue to be that way for the next hundred years.

So this was really an opportunity to hear from the users of the information, the providers of the information, and the intermediaries, who are the librarians, as to what you would like to see.

Yes, I have Carol Watts.

Ms. WATTS. Carol Watts, Department of Housing and Urban Development Library. I have a question for the Committee that perhaps you just addressed, but it seems to me several months ago at the Office of Technology Assessment when you were meeting there, there were a number of brainstorming ideas that came up as possible pilot studies or proposal ideas, and I haven't heard about any of them today.

So I'm curious to know if there was any follow-up or anything that happened with those. The other question I have is that since the defense and intelligence agencies have been developing electronic data source work for years, has anybody talked to any of the agencies? Have you all, is what I'm asking, talked to any of the agencies specifically to find out if they would be willing?

You know, is the flight information available, or is anything from NASA, or specifically with defense or intelligence? Has anyone really talked to them?

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, what we have done so far is the Chairman of our Committee, Senator Mathias, sent a letter out to the heads of all departments and agencies, sending along a copy of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee and a letter inviting them to think about this question and to send a representative to this forum to learn more about what the possibilities are.

The responses that we've been receiving from them indicate that they are thinking about it and considering it and looking at the possibilities. We have met, JCP staff, with the Defense Department representatives to begin initial discussions and have asked them to include libraries in their plans.

All of the armed services are considering electronic libraries of the future, but many of them are simply in the planning stage. They don't actually have electronic libraries yet. They may have some electronic files or some electronic files that are used for printing. So they've all been asked to consider libraries.

None of them have come forward with a specific proposal, and I really don't expect most of the agencies to come forward with one right away because they've got to start thinking about it and figuring out how they do want to work with the depository library program.

It's the usual sort of educational process that you go through with agency policymakers and publishers. Just as with the traditional format, we've had tremendous educational efforts that have resulted in getting certain kinds of information into the program that weren't there in the past. So I see the same sort of an effort being expanded for the future.

Ms. WATTS. The other question is who does the Committee propose will head these projects. For instance, we've had a number of academic libraries——

Ms. HODUSKI. Pardon me?

Ms. WATTS. Who do you all see as heading these pilot projects? Do you all see yourselves as people to monitor the results of the people in the universities who are offering in this case to come forth with pilot projects, or have you all gotten to that point yet?

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, the Ad Hoc Committee recommended that the Superintendent of Documents and the Joint Committee on Printing decide upon the projects and actually run those projects. Now, whether they would be run in conjunction with another Government agency or institution is all a part of the idea of finding who's out there willing to be a partner in a pilot project.

So in this meeting we are looking at all options. We are waiting for you to tell us the ways that you think would be good. It doesn't necessarily mean the Joint Committee is going to adopt all those ways, or even perhaps that legally we could do all those ways. But we want to hear the ideas.

We particularly would like to hear from agencies that are willing to participate in pilot projects because we can't just simply walk into an agency and say, you're it. That's not exactly the way it works between the Legislative Branch and the Executive Branch.

So we're very eagerly waiting for volunteer guinea pigs from the Executive Branch or the Judicial Branch.

Ms. WATTS. I guess what I was trying to figure out is what's the hidden agenda. I mean, I think we have a lot of agency people here today mingled in with a lot of academic people and a lot of people from other kinds of depositories.

I think we all came for some kind of guidance. You know, here are some prototype pilots; what does anyone think? Yet, many of us who came from agencies don't have the power to sit here and say, boy, have we got a great idea for you.

So you're right; it's an exploratory point in time. But I was sort of hoping there were some specifics you all might have at this point. So I assume those are still pending.

Thank you.

Ms. HODUSKI. I don't think that we have a hidden agenda. I think our goal of this meeting is to get ideas and to start ideas fermenting both in the Government and outside the Government, and hopefully to go from that step on. So we have no pilot project in mind. That would be the next stage, once we get some interest from the various communities. This is what the next step should be.

Ms. WATTS. Thank you.

Ms. HODUSKI. Chuck Goodspeed.

Mr. GOODSPEED. I was just wondering if it wouldn't be a good idea to set up some kind of time, like 2 weeks or 3 weeks or a month, if any of us wish to make written statements for the record.

Mr. KLEIS. I think I said at the beginning, Chuck, that we'll hold the record open for 30 days for additional written statements.

Ms. HODUSKI. Yes, sir, would you please come to the microphone?

Mr. KLEMMER. I'm Dan Klemmer from the Department of State Library, and we have approximately 14 different on-line systems, which all of you are familiar with, I'm sure. We would like to see Government data distribution in an on-line system.

We are a little concerned, however, when we make that recommendation that whatever body is developed to do this distribution not become ossified in the way that a number of other Government agency on-line systems are now.

Once again, I'm sure you're familiar with those that have not kept pace with technology and are offering early releases of DIALOG and things like that. So we are concerned that, first, we'd like to have Government do it, but we want to be sure that it doesn't become ossified; that whatever systems there is is state-of-the-art and is a very useful system.

Ms. HODUSKI. Thank you.

Yes, Judith?

Mr. ROWE. I just wanted to ask whether it would be acceptable from the standpoint of the depository libraries to make a proposal which would, as in the situation of academic libraries, involve some other unit in their institution either to process data, to train librarians, whatever, to try to deal with some of the problems we've heard mentioned today.

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, I think we look at the depository libraries as part of a larger institution. I mean, if you're a library for MIT or for Princeton, presumably you are serving the entire institution and the entire institution is working with the library.

In some places I've gone to, I can see that that's not really so, but that's the presumption that one has. The depository benefits that entire institution, so I wouldn't see any problem with that kind of a cooperative proposal at all.

Are there any more comments?

[No response.]

Ms. HODUSKI. Any comments from the Ad Hoc Committee members?

Ms. CONYNGHAM. Bernadine, I just wanted to address a concern I sensed as some people have spoken that I think we did talk about during the Committee deliberations. We realize that while some of us are not that familiar with the depository libraries, we did learn a fair amount.

There are small depository libraries; there are some that are geographically dispersed. And I think we did address this in the report and I would hope that when it comes to the pilot projects, those libraries will be included because I feel strongly, and I think we did feel that way as a Committee, that there is an equitable distribution of information and that it not involve just those libraries which are large and very successful and well supported.

But there is a geographical distribution and there is a concern that should be able to benefit a great deal even though the benefits aren't perceived immediately.

Ms. HODUSKI. Thank you, Margaret.

I think that was one of the concerns of the Committee and in my talking at various state association meetings around the country, for example, in Montana and Tennessee, which have a lot of small institutions, they were very concerned about being included.

Many of these states—for example, Montana, Wyoming, and others—where you don't have a lot of institutions and they're scattered over a large geographic area, have cooperative systems where they share information and are thinking of setting up or already have cooperative automation networks and would perhaps want to be considered as a unit.

I believe that there was a twin city group that wanted to be considered as a unit; all the libraries in that area wanted to be considered as a pilot project. So there are various geographic combinations that could be considered, and I think the Ad Hoc Committee spend a lot of time, at least at certain subcommittee meetings, discussing possibilities of various geographic combinations.

Again, that was one of the things that we had hoped that the depository library community would communicate with us; not only what kind of information do you want in a pilot project, but what kinds of combinations.

We had talked, also, about perhaps a pilot project with all the law libraries interested in legislative materials. Another one is those interested in scientific and technical, or a smaller subset, energy, or those interested in geographic maps—subset pilot projects, perhaps scattered around the country to test this out.

Eventually, you might discover that the electronic access could be targeted towards certain groupings of libraries who now select certain subject areas. For example, you have about 3 or 400 libraries that select energy-type materials on a regular basis and accept quite a bit of it. They might be a logical group to be tied into this kind of an information system.

There are a lot of different ways it could be structured, and that's what we hoped you would think about, the various ways, and let us know after you leave this meeting. Think about it and send us your ideas.

Jeanne, you wanted to say something?

Ms. ISACCO. Before this Committee leaves today, I just wanted to offer my thanks to this Committee. In many speeches and discussions of this topic of accessing electronic information by depository libraries, it has been extremely difficult to get beyond the philosophic differences between the public sector and the private sector.

I think the wonderful, exciting option that this Committee has offered—that of pilot projects to test a variety of different ways of providing this access to Federal information—is so unique. There have been numerous other committees who have tried to come to some meeting of the minds as to what access to electronic information is going to mean.

I'm not uncomfortable with an ambiguity of what the pilot projects are going to be. I certainly see enough grass-roots-level projects in my job that I know are just going to evolve. That

doesn't mean I'm not concerned about it, but I'm not—you know, that kind of ambiguity does not bother me.

But I wanted to go on record as saying that I think this Committee certainly deserves a hearty thank you for coming up with something that gets us beyond the philosophic differences and into something that we can see some kind of tangible results. And perhaps 3 years from now, we'll be sitting here going over the facts and figures that will lead us to say, OK, this looks like a very positive thing and this does not, and that gets us to a point where I think we can then make some better decisions.

Ms. HODUSKI. Thank you, Jeanne. I'm sure all the Committee liked the compliment.

Yes, Steve.

Mr. MARGETON. I just thought I would like to mention that the report is rather short. It's only 16 pages and it distills the thoughts of the Committee, and we wished it to be short and readable and we hoped it was a fair summary of our deliberations.

Many of the issues that you have discussed were addressed at great length by the Committee over those 14 months that we actually met. Issues such as the variety of types of data bases were suggested by the report, but they are by no means the only data bases that we would be more than willing to entertain.

Another issue that we discussed quite at length was the responsibility of the depository libraries. It wouldn't be a free gift to them; they would really be asked to participate as a full partner and provide significant statistical feedback. We talked at great length about how that might come about.

We also talked at great length about different kinds of distribution systems. I know when I first came on the Committee, I thought that the only possible distribution system would be a dial-up, on-line system, and I was quickly taught that there were many other possibilities that would be viable in the depository library system, such as disks, tapes, being mailed out, and video disks, et cetera.

So in answer to the gentleman from the State Department, I think that the Committee at no time planned or discussed locking into any one particular system; that we would be looking at a great variety of systems. Indeed, that was the reason why we asked what kind of equipment the various depository libraries were using.

Ms. HODUSKI. Ken?

Mr. ROSENBERG. I just have a short statement for the record regarding Tony's response to my statement. I am flattered, having read Machiavelli and understood it thoroughly, by his reference to my statement as being Machiavellian.

However, I am somewhat disturbed at what I take to be an attempt at an ad hominem attack.

Ms. HODUSKI. Since Tony is not here on the podium, that will be in the record and he can read it later.

Mr. ROSENBERG. Indeed.

Mr. HOGAN. My name is Frank Hogan. I'm with the Department of HUD. I work in data processing. My question is in terms of talking about the pilots, is there any possibility or are you planning on having pilots on how you're going to get the data into the system, whatever that system is?

I would think that that would be one of the major difficulties you're going to have, putting this data into whatever system you have from the Government sources. That's my question.

Ms. HODUSKI. Well, do you mean the initial input of the data?

Mr. HOGAN. Yes.

Ms. HODUSKI. We're assuming that if an agency provides it, they're already putting it into an electronic format. We wouldn't be going after data that's not in an electronic format.

Mr. HOGAN. I'm under the impression that you're taking documents, manuals, et cetera, and you're going to have to convert that to electronics.

Ms. HODUSKI. No, no. what we're looking at is where agencies have already—for example, the Census Bureau; the majority of its statistical data is in electronic format already. And data that used to go to the libraries in paper format—now, much of it does not go out in paper format to them. In fact, it's not even usable in paper format because you have to manipulate it.

But that information is going out to their State data centers in an electronic format. So there are other agencies that are producing data in electronic format, so we're not looking at asking the agencies to create electronic format or asking GPO to do that. We're only looking at those instances where the data is already in an electronic format of one kind or another.

For example, the Air and Space Museum put all of their photographs on a disk—50,000 photographs, I believe it was. That is a machine-readable product which could then be provided to the depository libraries, simply mailed out to them. So that's what we're looking at.

Mr. HOGAN. All right. Before, we had our question phrased where we were asking that question, whether or not you were talking about the electronic data that exists in the Government now or the written data, but since that has been cleared, since this electronic data is in so many different formats, the project, I would think, should have a major part in determining how you're going to get it into a single, usable format for your system.

Ms. HODUSKI. You're right. That would be one of the questions we hope would be answered by pilot projects. There would have to be a determination.

Mr. HOGAN. I would not think that that would be a task for a university. I would think that would be a task for a data processing or electronic area.

Ms. ROWE. What agency are you from?

Mr. HOGAN. I'm with the Department of HUD.

Ms. ROWE. Pardon me?

Mr. HOGAN. The Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Ms. ROWE. Thank you.

Ms. HODUSKI. Any pilot project that is done would have to be done cooperatively with the Agency publishing that information, creating that information, along with the Government Printing Office and the Joint Committee on Printing and the recipient, and if there were any private party involved—you know, an information company or a contractor, or whoever.

This would have to be worked out ahead of time as to the procedures, and so on, as to how the information would be accepted and sent out. We did discuss that quite a few times as to whether you would be using optical disks or tapes on providing it on-line.

One of the things that the Ad Hoc Committee agreed to is that certain kinds of data is appropriate for certain kinds of dissemination mechanisms. Bibliographic data that is constantly updated every minute, like a catalog, is appropriate on line, but something that is quite static and is not going to be manipulated that constantly could go out in disks and be put up and updates sent out

So we looked at various ways. In fact, in our appendices, we had experts from various agencies talk to us about the ways that this data is being disseminated now, so that people would see the various options that we looked at.

So you're right. We have to work with the data processing people in the agencies, as well as the agency publishers and others, to determine how the pilot project would work.

Mr. HOGAN. Yes. My concern was that if you have it coming in from so many sources, you would have to bring it together somewhere before you could give it to the libraries.

Ms. HODUSKI. Yes.

Mr. HOGAN. And before you brought it together, it would be hard for the libraries to determine how they were going to use it. So for the libraries to respond, it seems to me they'd have to know something up front about how it was coming together.

Thank you.

Ms. HODUSKI. I would assume that in a lot of cases, the agencies' users are similar in the way they use the information to the libraries' users. For example, the Department of Energy puts up all of its publications in microfiche. Their own laboratory users use the product that way, and that's the way the libraries and their users use the product.

So one has to make the assumption that the agency users are similar to library users in a lot of instances. There would have to be a lot of discussion back and forth to determine how the users are using the data and how the libraries could best use it. That is one of the reasons that this is not an easy decision to decide on a pilot project that will answer a lot of these questions, like the ones that you've just raised.

Do you have any other comments from the audience or from our Committee members? We haven't heard so much from down at that end.

Ms. CROCKETT. I'm Martha Crockett from the Patent and Trademark Office, and our free on-line access to Patent and Trademark Office information is used somewhat differently internally by our patent examiners as from the library community.

There are some overlapping uses, but in some cases they are used differently. The system is very heavily used both internally and by our patent depository library system. I just also want to say that we can't lose sight of the fact—and I'm speaking as a former librarian—that libraries do a lot of the work of the Federal agencies in carrying out their missions of information dissemination.

For every copy of a patent that one of our libraries makes, that's one less copy the Patent Office has to make. For every question

that they answer on how to do a patent search, that's one less question the Patent and Trademark Office has to answer.

The libraries also spend lots and lots of money on staff, housing for the microfilm. They also spend a lot of money in the private sector for collections to complement this information that they get free from the Government.

The patent library system also relies very heavily on GPO to provide its other access tools to patent searching. The Patent Office only provides the patents, but GPO provides all the search tools.

So I don't think we should lose sight of the fact of what the libraries are doing for the agencies.

Ms. HODUSKI. Anyone on this side?

[No response.]

Ms. HODUSKI. Anyone else in the audience?

[No response.]

Ms. HODUSKI. If not, I think we're getting—Judy?

Ms. MYERS. I'd just like to say that there are advantages to sticking with things to the bitter end. I probably have enough copies of our proposal for everyone who is left.

[Laughter.]

Ms. HODUSKI. Judy says she has copies of her proposal for all of you who are left, so a reward for sticking through the meeting.

Mr. KLEIS. I'd like to thank you all for coming because, of course, the Joint Committee on Printing needs to be aware of what the issues are and what the concerns are. Let me just make one final comment. The recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee will be considered by the members of the Joint Committee on Printing, but these are cost-conscious times and I think that to the extent that everybody can share in the resources that are needed for these pilot projects, it probably will aid greatly in their being adopted. So I just wanted to throw that out for a little ending comment.

Again, thank you all for coming. You have 30 days from now to get in any additional written material. As I said, the transcript and written statements will probably be microfiched and sent to you as soon as possible.

Thank you.

[Whereupon, at 4:33 p.m., the open forum was concluded.]

Statement Submitted by Witnesses

Association of Research Libraries
1527 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 232-2466

ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH LIBRARIES STATEMENT

Submitted to the Joint Committee on Printing

Regarding the Provision of Government Information in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries

Presented by

Dr. Russell Shank, University Librarian and Professor
Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UCLA

June 26, 1985

The Association of Research Libraries is an organization of 117 of the largest public and academic research libraries in the United States and Canada. All ARL member libraries, including Canadian institutions, collect U.S. Government information to meet the research, teaching and information needs of their users: all but five of the U.S. members serve as Congressionally designated GPO Depository Libraries. Our members have reviewed the report of the Ad Hoc Committee with considerable interest and were encouraged by the recommendation that electronic information should be part of the depository library program. In order that depository libraries may fulfill their responsibilities to the citizens of the United States, it is essential that they be provided with government information in electronic format. In homes, on campuses, and in offices, there is rapidly expanding use of microcomputers and a growing expectation that libraries should be able to provide government information in electronic format - the sooner the better!

ARL depository libraries have suggested a wide array of government information they would like to receive in electronic format. For rapid access to time-critical information, there are repeated requests for the full text of the Federal Register, the Congressional Record, and the Commerce Business Daily. This is particularly important for collections located in the Western portion of the country where delivery of the paper edition of such titles, even when mailed by first class mail, may take a week or more to reach the libraries. Another category of time-critical information desired by ARL depositories is federal legislative status reports. For increased accessibility to information, our users ask for electronic access to the full text of government reports such as the Code of Federal Regulations and patents. Bibliographic records describing government reports, when supplied in electronic format, provide an opportunity to dramatically increase the visibility, and therefore use, of this material. Studies have indicated that the use of government documents increases from 100 percent to 300 percent when bibliographic records describing them are included in local online catalogs. The records created by the Government Printing Office, the National Technical Information Service, the National Library of Medicine, the Department of Energy, and ERIC are high on the ARL libraries list of desirable files to provide to depository collections.

ARL depository libraries are genuinely interested and supportive of the recommendation that the Joint Committee on Printing and the Government Printing Office initiate pilot projects to gain experience with alternative methods of providing electronic information to depository libraries. This is a logical next step to explore both public service and economic benefits for users (taxpayers), libraries, and the Government Printing Office. The willingness of libraries to participate in a pilot project is definitely present among ARL members. At least eight ARL libraries, some of which will be represented by speakers here today, have reported that they are preparing proposals for pilot projects and are ready now to serve as test sites. In addition, another 32 ARL libraries have indicated that they are interested in participating in a pilot project but have not prepared proposals. The ability of some of these libraries to serve as a test site is of course contingent upon a number of variables such as the timing of the pilot projects and the format and content of the files to be offered. With the number of libraries eager to add electronic formats to their depository collections, identification of willing participants should not be a problem for the JCP.

One of the more serious and costly problems now facing all libraries concerns the housing and preservation of research library resources. The application of computer and videodisk technology to cartographic material, currently under consideration at the U.S Geological Survey, directly addresses this problem. As the USGS project progresses, ARL depository libraries deem it essential that the impact of substituting maps on a disk or digital cartographic data for the paper products be assessed. Many ARL institutions and libraries are already testing the videodisk format for health care education and information delivery: an extension of their involvement into an evaluation of the USGS application of this format would be welcomed.

ARL encourages the Joint Committee on Printing and the Government Printing Office to move ahead toward a decision which would include the deposit of government information in electronic format in depository libraries. In addition, we encourage JCP and GPO to pursue pilot projects that will test both the user benefits and the costs to the library and the government of providing depository libraries access to government information in electronic format. Finally, we recommend that evaluations of the pilot projects involve those individuals to whom these programs are directed: the users of government information.

[Dr. Shank was formerly Director of Libraries at the Smithsonian Institution, President of the American Library Association and the Association of College and Research Libraries, Chairman of the Board of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), and member of the Board of Directors of ARL. In addition to his current responsibilities at UCLA, he is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.]

Statement of
Francis J. Buckley, Jr.
Assistant Director for Technical Services
Detroit Public Library

before the

Joint Committee on Printing

on

The Provision of Government Information in
Electronic Format to Depository Libraries

June 26, 1985

My name is Francis J. Buckley, Jr. I am the Assistant Director for Technical Services at the Detroit Public Library which has been a depository library, and thus a center for access to government information, since 1868.

I am pleased to speak on behalf of the American Library Association. Approximately 40,000 librarians, educators, library trustees, and other information professionals dedicated to the improvement of library service for all citizens are members of the Association. I am currently serving on the Association's policy-setting Council and I am a past Chairperson of the Association's Government Documents Round Table. In addition I am the Chairperson of an ALA Ad Hoc Committee established to form a Coalition on Government Information with other organizations concerned about the collection, analysis, and dissemination of federal government information vital to the well being of the American public.

The American Library Association has, throughout its history, taken an active interest in the library and information activities of the federal government because of our belief that citizens should have equal and ready access to unclassified information of public interest or educational value, as well as because of our intimate knowledge of the usefulness and crucial

importance of government information to citizens. Librarians across the country constantly seek and use government information not for their own purposes, but as intermediaries for the public. Thus we are aware of the diverse interests, information needs, and expectations of the public.

We commend the Joint Committee on Printing for establishing an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the feasibility and desirability of providing access to Federal Government information in electronic formats to depository libraries, and for investigating this important issue. We appreciate having had the opportunity for one of our colleagues, Judith Rowe, Associate Director for Academic Data and Program Services, Princeton University Computer Center, to participate in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee is also to be commended for their pioneering work investigating new technological methods of information dissemination as well as the complexities of decentralized access to information by citizens and libraries across the country. Due to the complexities of present and future computer technology, the need for libraries to develop expertise in manipulating electronic data as well as to establish technical support systems, and the need for patron sophistication to evolve to utilize federal information in electronic formats, the recommendations that data bases be added gradually to the Depository Library Program and that pilot projects be developed to provide further data is most appropriate.

There is an accelerating tendency of federal agencies to use computer and telecommunications technologies for data collection, storage, retrieval, and dissemination. Much government information is being stored only in electronic format, and printed versions are being eliminated. Access to some government data files is being provided via contractual

agreements with commercial vendors who provide fee based search services, through the sale or lease of tapes or discs, or via provision of free online access such as the Patent Office CASSIS system available to patent depository libraries.

One of the statements in the draft circular on the Management of Federal Information Resources recently proposed by the Office of Management and Budget with which we strongly agree is:

> The use of up-to-date information technology offers opportunities to improve the management of government programs and access to, and dissemination of government information.

We believe that there should be access through depository libraries to government information in all formats, interpreting Title 44, U.S. Code, Section 1901 in a broad sense in light of new technological ways of publishing.

The present programs for dissemination of printed government information for public access, while not as coordinated or efficient as one would wish, offer a model for meeting government, public and private sector interests in federal information. The Depository Library Program provides a basic level of free public access to government publications through its network of nearly 1400 public, academic, state and federal libraries in all Congressional Districts. Government agencies often provide free distribution programs to specific constituencies, and other agencies (e.g., GPO and NTIS) provide non-profit cost-recovery sales programs. Lastly, private sector publishers play a vital role in the process by repackaging, adding value by supplementing the information or reindexing, or by marketing noncopyrighted government information to reach the widest possible audience.

A base level of free public access to government information in print or electronic format is essential to ensuring that all citizens have the opportunity to become informed participants in our democratic society. The depository library program offers them one way to do this.

The American Library Association strongly supports the proposal to develop pilot projects as a necessary step to test alternate modes of delivery and access to government information in electronic formats. The Detroit Public Library which I represent and Wayne State University Library, two institutions serving the citizens of Detroit and Michigan, would be interested in such projects, given the interest in and use of federal government information by our patrons.

University of Houston Libraries

Proposal to the

Congressional Joint Committee on Printing

For a Pilot Project on

Depository Library Access to

Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format

Submitted by

Robin N. Downes, Director of Libraries

Judy E. Myers, Database Project Director

June 25, 1985

June 24, 1985

University of Houston Libraries
Proposal to the Congressional Joint Committee
On Printing For a Pilot Project on Depository Access
To Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format

INTRODUCTION

Electronic Information

Since the early days of computers, information seekers have dreamed of available, searchable data bases of indexes, text, numbers, and illustrations. These dreams are being realized now. Better information, more relevant and found more quickly, is expanding the frontiers of knowledge and improving business productivity. The capability to update data more quickly, to perform sophisticated searches on universes of files at electronic speeds, and to reduce the physical handling and storage of books, journals, and other physical products, has led information seekers to an increasing reliance on computerized information.

The Government information which is available to the public in electronic form is being heavily used. Bibliographic files from ERIC, the Department of Energy, NTIS, the Government Printing Office, and many other Federal agencies are available in both printed and in electronic form. The electronic files are available through database services such as DIALOG and BRS, and many are also available in libraries, usually as part of an online catalog of library holdings. Public access to government text, numeric, and graphic files in electronic form is more limited. The Ad Hoc Committee survey of depository libraries showed that there is a strong demand for this information.

Most of the present demand is for information which is available in both printed and electronic form. These forms should not be viewed as equivalents. Even when the content of a print file and an electronic one is identical, electronic information can be used in ways in which print cannot. Electronic files are often updated more rapidly, and computer searching provides the capability to relate two or more concepts and to retrieve information pertinent to all, such as the interaction between two chemicals, or methods of teaching reading to deaf students. Often the printed product contains only part of the information which is contained in the electronic file. The Census tapes and publications are an example of this relationship.

Public Access to Electronic Information

There are at present two primary ways for citizens to gain access to publicly-available electronic information - through libraries and through vendors. Libraries increasingly offer an electronic catalog, which provides much more information and permits a greater range of search options than a card catalog. Libraries also serve as intermediaries between information seekers and database vendors, by recommending relevant data files, performing searches as requested by users, and by providing equipment and instruction for people who want to learn to search these files. Libraries sometimes bear the cost of these searches, and sometimes pass on the cost to the person seeking the information. Libraries are also beginning to provide local access to these data files, in order to make the service available to more users and to reduce the cost to the users.

Vendors provide direct access to data files, including many files developed from government information. Direct access to these files through vendors is limited to a very small segment of the population. This is true because access requires money and also considerable skill in information seeking, since the data is marketed to the vendor's target audience, not to the citizens at large. While these vendor-provided services are valuable, they limit public access to an extent which libraries find unacceptable.

Private industry should not only be allowed, but encouraged, to provide government information, to add value, and to market. However, these activities of private industry inevitably result in selection and modification of government information. The private sector does not meet the need for a democratic government to inform its citizens of its actions and activities.

Vendor distribution is selective in several ways. Vendors first select the files which their market will support. Many available Federal data files are not made available through vendors. The vendor market consists primarily of large institutions such as Federal agencies, large businesses, and research programs. Vendors do not select files for their value to citizens who are interested in monitoring the activities of government.

Vendors also alter files. They delete information from files, re-tag information, and they can easily change the contents of files. Government has proved to be less likely than private sector file suppliers to monitor the permutations of its files. This occurs because the creator of a private sector file usually created the file in order to provide it to the public through a database vendor, receives a royalty for use of the file, and is therefore concerned about the quality of the version of the file which reaches the public. Government providers of files often do not use the version of the file on the database network, and see no compelling reason to ensure the quality of the file. For example, CIS is well aware of the ways in which DIALOG and BRS change its files (including deletion

of data fields), while Federal agencies either do not know whether database vendors delete or revise information in their files, or they realize only when the question is asked that the vendors must be revising the files, since the vendor's version of the records is shorter.

The Depository Library Program as a means for Public Access to Government Publications in Electronic Form

The Depository Library program has proven its worth as a cost-effective means of disseminating government information to citizens. Depository libraries have proven to be flexible and resourceful in receiving information in whatever format is best suited to the materials--books, pamphlets, posters, microfiche or maps. Many depositories are equipped to provide access to other forms of government information, such as audiovisual materials and electronic files. We see these as alternative formats, and we believe that publications should be distributed in an appropriate format.

As a Federal depository, the University of Houston Library is increasingly concerned about citizen access to government publications in electronic form. We see increasing amounts of government information becoming available only in electronic form, as is documented in S. Prt. 98-260. We see that citizens are being limited in their access to this information. We welcome the JCP's request for pilot project proposals. We urge the JCP not only to establish pilot projects, but to move quickly. Costs have already dropped dramatically, and the need is increasing.

Among the options recommended by the JCP, we favor the distribution of electronic publications to those depository libraries which are willing and able to provide access to the information in their area. We expect that many depositories will prefer not to install large files on their own computers. However, we feel that it is important that all materials be made available to each library, as is the present practice for depository libraries.

PURPOSE

Our proposal is intended to show that depository libraries can provide public access to government electronic information with fairly modest computing facilities.

PROPOSAL

We propose to provide a selection of government files at the University of Houston Libraries, and to provide access to this

information to local libraries and to the public at large. Our proposal includes on-site terminals plus a number of dial-in lines.

We recommend that this pilot project include examples of several types of files, including bibliographic files, full-text files, and semi-numeric files (such as CENDATA). We further recommend that pilot projects develop means for access to numeric files, such as the Census tapes, and graphic information such as topographic maps.

We propose this as an example of a regional information center.

Suitability of Library and of the Houston Area

The University of Houston Library is a major center of higher education and research. It serves not only the University, but the greater Houston area and the United States.

The Library is a leader in providing electronic access to its collections. The Library is one of two test sites for a state-of-the-art online catalog that supports dial-up access and sophisticated searching techniques. The Library participates in local and national networks which facilitate sharing of information and resources.

The Library is presently implementing a Public Services Database Project which includes several programs to improve access to electronic information. Among these are programs for searching online databases in University departments and offices, and programs to provide access to heavily used data files on Library computers. Since the single most heavily used file is a government one (ERIC), the JCP request for proposals is closely related to the Library's current plans.

Houston is a large metropolitan area with a dynamic educational and business community which includes the headquarters of many national and international companies. The information needs of this region are illustrated by the large number of libraries, the second largest number in any city in the United States.

There are eight Federal depository libraries, several Federal libraries, and a GPO bookstore within the local calling zone of the U of H Library. Data files mounted here, with dial-up access, would be equitably available via a local telephone call to all of these libraries and to the over three million people who live or work in Houston. The files would also be available from terminals nationwide for the cost of a long distance telephone call.

Data Files Recommended for a Pilot Project

In developing a proposed list of data files for a pilot project

we have considered the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee's survey of depository libraries. We have consulted with other depository libraries and with users of our library and its depository collection. We have considered the level of demand and of access which we already have to certain files.

Bibliographic files - Of the bibliographic files the JCP survey of depository libraries showed to be most used or most needed, we feel that several are readily available now. Citizens of this area have access to the LC MARC file on bibliographic utilities and to large subsets of the MARC file in library online catalogs. The Medline file is being put up at the Houston Academy of Medicine Library. The Rice University Library is a patent depository and has access to the patents file.

We consider the Monthly Catalog file to be a special case. It is an extremely important file to us, since it provides access to our depository collection. However, since this is a file of library MARC catalog records, we would prefer to place these records in our online catalog.

The bibliographic files which we would most like to have in a pilot program, in the order of their importance, are: ERIC, Department of Energy, NTIS, NASA, Child Abuse & Neglect, and Health Planning and Administration. All of these ranked in the top ten on the JCP survey except the Energy file, which is of particular interest in the Houston area.

Full-text files - We would very much like a pilot project to include the full-text files of laws, regulations, and certain related materials. The equipment which we propose below permits fast full-text searching of large text files. This would be of particular value for the current materials. The text files which we would most like to see in a pilot program are the current issues of the Congressional Record, Federal Register, Slip Laws, and Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents plus the Code of Federal Regulations and the U.S. Code. All of these files ranked in the top ten on the JCP survey. An additional file, TSCA, did not rank as high in the Ad Hoc committee survey but it is of great interest to us.

Semi-numeric files - Two files of this type ranked in the top ten in one category of the Ad hoc Committee survey. These were the Consumer Price Index and the BLS Labor Statistics file. One important file, CENDATA, has been introduced since the survey was taken. We feel that these three are appropriate examples of their type and would be valuable for a pilot project.

Further Development of Data Resources

We recommend that pilot projects include numeric files, of which we consider the Census files to be most important. When the Census tapes were first used by State Data Centers, unique computer programs were written for each search. More recently Texas A&M University has developed a more general program which can be used to meet a large percentage of the requests which they receive. It is feasible to develop such a program to run as part of a pilot program, which would permit libraries and citizens with a personal computer or a terminal to dial a search of the Census data tapes. Data can also be selected from the Census tape file, downloaded to a personal computer, and searched with commercial software, such as a spreadsheet or database program.

The U.S. Geological Survey is developing a program to provide U.S. topographic maps on laser disks. We believe that this would greatly improve distribution, accessability, and use of this material. We recommend that this material be added to the pilot project when it is ready for a public-use test.

We also recommend that the JCP encourage the development of stages 2 and 3 of the Department of Energy proposal which was presented to the JCP staff in April. These two stages provide for the distribution of the text of technical reports on laser disks. The Energy proposal shows that the cost of distributing Energy publications on laser disks is rapidly decreasing to the level of the current microfiche distribution program. We recommend that the Department of Energy be encouraged to implement its proposal and that it be included in the pilot project when it is ready for a public-use test.

Equipment

The Ad Hoc Committee has seen in the presentations made to it that libraries and the public can retrieve information from computer files with very modest equipment--a computer or a terminal, preferably with a printer. A regional data center (such as the University of Houston) would of course require more computing and data storage capacity, but still well within the range of the size and cost of present library online catalogs. The equipment configuration below would permit several large files to be available at any one time. Lesser-used files could be put up on request, either by using a "juke box" disc changer or by a request to the computer operator.

Sample Equipment Configuration

The sample configuration below is provided to show that a great deal of data and an extensive search capacity can be provided on a

relatively modest computer system. Additional data and terminal capacity can be provided by upgrading to a larger VAX. Prices are not included because most of this equipment is often heavily discounted from list prices as a result of special purchase agreements or volume purchases.

QTY	DESCRIPTION
1	MicroVAX II or VAX-11/730 CPU, 3 MB ECC MOS memory, operating system, Fortran, UNIBUS expansion backplane
1	Magnetic tape drive, 1600 b/in
2	Magnetic Disk drives
8	Terminals with multiplexer and multiline interface
1	Printer
1	System console with hard-copy terminal
7	Rack mounted modems with power supply and cables
5	Clasix 2000 optical datadrives (2 disks per drive, data capacity, 1 gigabyte per disk)
1	GESCAN System incl/ Text Array Processor w/4 query processors (or equivalent) and GESCAN interface

The equipment configuration is designed to reduce the cost of producing laser-disk masters, since the first master is expensive (copies are very inexpensive). We propose that file updates be stored on the magnetic disk drives for one to three months before the data is transferred to laser disks. A tape drive is proposed for loading data which is received on tape.

An important component of the proposed equipment is a text array processor, which greatly reduces the response time for searches on large files, permits searching of both structured and unstructured (full-text) files, and reduces the data storage need by approximately 50%, since separate files of indexes are not required. By using a text array processor the computer only has to handle communications and data transfer from the disks to the processor and the processor to the terminals. Most of the processing power of the computer is available for tasks such as manipulating Census tape data.

Facilities, staff

The U of H Library has a computer room with sufficient space, power, and environmental control capacity for the central equipment proposed for this site.

Computer operators are presently available almost twenty-four hours a day. Much of the routine operation of a computer for the pilot project could be handled by the present staff.

The Library has a large reference service and user education staff which presently provides service to academic users and to the community at large. We are presently preparing extensive instructional materials on online searching. We have been somewhat

surprised at how readily our public adapted to the Library online catalog. A copy of the guide to the Library's dial-up users is attached; we invite the JCP to try it. Our experience suggests that the major need will be for recommendations of data files appropriate to the user's question. In addition to the traditional personal advice which the reference staff now provides on questions of this type, we have an internal Library proposal for a decision-support system which could be adapted to assist users in formulating these queries and selecting the appropriate index or data file.

The pilot project would be under the direction of Judy Myers, Public Services Database Project Director. Mrs. Myers is familiar with the Federal depository program and is a former member and chair of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer.

Some decisions about the scope, scale, and detailed requirements of a pilot project need to be made before a final determination of additional staffing needs can be made. The areas in which further decisions are needed are described below.

Futher Development of Pilot Projct Proposal

Our objective with this present version of a proposal is to show what is possible, feasible, and needed. Further development of the concepts and details will be necessary to create a proposal to be implemented.

Participating organizations and relationships

A regional structure should be established for a regional pilot, including provisions for management and direction, and for provision of equipment, services, data, training, and publicity.

Project Specifications

We have proposed specific files above. These should be negotiated with the JCP and with additional service centers in the region to determine the need and the availability of data products for a pilot project. Additional discussion is also needed on the equipment, including the terminals or small computers to be used in libraries and other service centers away from the regional data site. For example, the regional computer would be searchable over telephone lines with only a terminal, but it is also feasible to distribute data on laser discs (the disk drives we have recommended can also be used on an IBM PC) or on floppy disks. For example, the ERIC files could be distributed on laser disks with a subset of the indexes on floppy disks. Some of the searching could then be done with an IBM PC. Additional discussion is needed on the number of laser disks and

on the frequency of creating new masters for files such as ERIC or the Congressional Record.

Support

It is apparent from our proposal that total project funding by JCP is not required. Many of the resources and facilities are already in place. Further discussion is needed on the support to be provided by the University of Houston, by service centers within the region and that provided by the JCP.

Evaluation

An evaluation plan should be developed which would provide information on the usefulness of the project to its users, on the extent to which the service reaches those who can benefit from it, and on ways to increase the ease of use or other qualitative aspects of the project.

Beyond a pilot program

We believe that all public government information in electronic form should be provided to libraries, and provided to the public. We have serious reservations about programs which involve transmission of data on request from various Federal agencies. We have seen too often that Federal programs of this type which require continuing funding by an agency for services to the public are among the first to go when funding becomes tight. When access is cut off the justification is usually the budget but the result is censorship. Several presentations to the Ad Hoc Committee revealed an additional concern which we share, that telecommunications costs are a barrier to access. These costs are a barrier now, when the information being delivered is a few pages of bibliographic citations or selected sections of text. It will be much greater when the request or needs the full text of several technical reports.

PUBLIC MEETING: ELECTRONIC FEDERAL
INFORMATION TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES
COMMENTS BY CAROL TURNER
JUNE 26, 1985

My name is Carol Turner. I am Chief Librarian in the Jonsson Library of Government Documents, Stanford University. I am currently Chairperson of the Government Documents Round Table of the American Library Association (GODORT). GODORT's membership includes 1300 librarians, educators, and information specialists who share a commitment to initiating and supporting programs that increase the availability, use, and bibliographic control of government information. The Round Table is very interested in the issue being discussed today. In January its members approved a resolution that endorses the Ad Hoc Committee's support for the principle that the federal government should provide access to federal information in electronic form through the depository library system. The resolution also supports the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation that pilot projects be undertaken. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee and on its proposal to initiate pilot projects.

The appointment of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases, the completion of its report, and the anticipated establishment of pilot projects are very positive steps toward insuring that citizens continue to have access to information that has been gathered, organized, or created by agencies of the federal government using taxpayer funds. Since the 19th century public access to government information in printed form has been provided through federal depository libraries. Since the late 1970's government information in microfiche format has also been made available in depository libraries. This incorporation of a new technology into an established program made it possible to increase greatly the amount of information that could be made available to the public through depository libraries and to do it at a very reasonable cost. Today, electronic technology is creating a revolution in our understanding of "information", "communication", and "publication". This presents new challenges and new opportunities for those of us who are engaged in providing access to government information for our library users. We are looking again at the kinds of information that should be provided through the depository library program, It is essential that we not lose sight of what is important here.

The focus must remain on the information and not on its format. Federal government information is important to citizens whether it is in book, microfiche, or computer tape format. Information that is only stored in electronic format should not be inaccessible simply because of its format. I'm afraid that we may be emphasizing the format too much because it's new and unfamiliar.

U. S. federal document depository collections are housed in libraries that vary in terms of size, geographic location, institutional setting, and clientele interest and sophistication. A common element among these libraries is the desire of staff to provide their users with the information they need as rapidly and cost-effectively as possible. The kind and extent of information needed and the format in which it can be used vary from library to library.

For example, librarians from a variety of depository and non-depository libraries have long expressed the need to have access to accurate retrospective and current bibliographic records from the Government Printing Office for reference service, verification, and cataloging. Many libraries do have access to cataloging records through bibliographic utilities and to the GPO's sales reference file through commercial data bases. But, this access is not free, and it is not available to all depository libraries and their users.

Among the information most frequently sought by those using federal government documents collections is up-to-date information on public laws, Congressional bills, and agency regulations. This kind of information is ideal for storage and retrieval in a data base because of its volume, the need to constantly integrate new information, and the value of multiple access points. Having such data bases available in depository libraries would be an excellent way to provide public access to this information and to foster citizen knowledge of and participation in government.

Much government information is now being stored only in electronic format because it is so voluminous that machine storage and manipulation is the only feasible way of using it. This includes vast statistical files

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such as those produced by a decennial census which are available in magnetic tape format. This data, which can only be produced by federal agencies is invaluable to researchers. It would be useful to have access to it through the depository library system.

The information needs I've outlined are best met through a variety of electronic formats. For example, retrospective bibliographic records and other files that are not updated might be stored on optical disks sent to individual libraries. Information that is frequently updated such as status of legislation or bibliographic records for newly released titles is best located in an online data base. Computer tapes that must be loaded on a mainframe or mini-computer for data to be manipulated and analyzed are appropriate for large statistical files used in research. It is important that these and other formats be examined in the pilot projects. Because of the varying needs of depository libraries and the rapid changes in the technology, the approach should be flexible and the pilot projects should encompass varied technologies, kinds of information, and kinds of library clientele served.

In summary, I want to reaffirm the Government Documents Round Table's strong support for the resolution adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee on February 2, 1984. That resolution both affirms the principle that the Federal Government should provide access to federal information in electronic form through the depository libraries system and recommends that the economic feasibility of this be investigated through pilot projects.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ROUND TABLE
RESOLUTION ON AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DEPOSITORY LIBRARY ACCESS
TO FEDERAL AUTOMATED DATA BASES
REPORT

Whereas the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases has found that much government information is stored only in electronic media and often is less accessible to the public than previously and,

Whereas the Ad Hoc Committee has indicated that as the "cost of traditional ink on paper rises and manipulation of paper documents becomes comparatively more cumbersome, we can expect more Government information to be available only through electronic media,"

Therefore, be it resolved that the Government Documents Round Table endorse the principle, as enunciated by the Ad Hoc Committee, that the Federal Government should provide access to federal information in electronic form through the depository library system and,

Be it further resolved that the Government Documents Round Table support the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee that the economic feasibility of providing such access be investigated through pilot projects and,

Be it further resolved that the Government Documents Round Table communicate this resolution to the Joint Committee on Printing, the Public Printer and the ALA Washington office.

Passed by GODORT 1/6/85

STATEMENT BY MIRIAM A. DRAKE

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES, GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Before the

Joint Committee on Printing

United States Congress

June 26, 1985

My name is Miriam Drake. I am Director of Libraries at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. Georgia Tech's undergraduate and graduate degree granting programs and sponsored research work cover the applied sciences, engineering, business, economics, architecture, and city planning. Georgia Tech has a general faculty of 1,400 and a student body of 11,000.

Last year the value of our sponsored research was approximately $100 million. Our library is one of the largest scientific and technical libraries in the nation.

I am here today to support the inclusion of information in electronic format in the distribution system of the Depository Library Program as recommended in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases. The Georgia Tech Library's information resources support teaching and research programs in Georgia as well as business and industry, other academic institutions, and the general public in the southeastern United States. As the administrator of that library, I am particularly concerned about the public availability of information produced by the Federal Government.

There are two primary reasons for my supporting dissemination of electronic information in the Depository Library Program. The first is the opportunity to use information technology to provide information

more cost effectively for the Federal Government, library distributors and information seekers and users. The cost of paper copy production, distribution, maintenance and use is considerably more expensive than the cost of producing and using electronic information. The Government as producer and initial distributor of this information incurs millions of dollars of cost that could be saved if the data were made available in machine readable form and distributed online or on optical disks.

Libraries, responsible for making this information available to the public, must set aside hundreds of feet of shelving and floor space. Additional costs include material and record processing, binding, retrieving and maintaining the paper copy and the maintenance of physical plant. Academic institutions and government at all levels are increasingly reluctant to invest millions of dollars and use valuable land to house hundreds of volumes of paper.

From the user's perspective, paper copy is expensive to use. First, the physical item must be located, appropriate data found, pages photocopied and data entered into the user's computer. This process is time consuming and expensive when the value of the user's time and the value of alternative uses of time are considered. The process of transferring machine readable data from an online computer or optical disk to a floppy disk or other entry device will consume less time and increase the productivity of user and library staff. We can no longer afford to maintain comprehensive paper warehouses or the current unproductive methods of data distribution and use.

The second reason for my supporting the inclusion of electronic files in the Depository Library Program is to ensure the availability of information to meet the needs of the students, faculties, reseachers, the business community, and the general public.

Increasingly more information produced by the Federal Government is or will be available exclusively in machine readable forms. Agencies, such as the Bureau of the Census. Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense and Agriculture, can no longer afford to distribute data on paper and are relying exclusively on electronic formats.

Acknowledgement by the Executive Branch of the scope of use of electronic information is inherent in the Office of Management and Budget's Management of Federal Information Resources: Notice and Request for Public Comment appearing in the March 15, 1985 issue of the Federal Register. Of particular interest is the statement appearing on page 10736, "The Federal information systems and technology budget, which was 14 billion in FY 1985 is projected to increase at a rate faster than that of the overall Federal budget. With outlays at these levels and agencies becoming increasingly dependent upon information technology to accomplish their missions, it is essential that planning processes be applied to the acquisition and application of information technology." The issue for depository libraries, and the constituencies they serve in every state, county, and city, is the availability of this electronic information which correctly belongs in the public domain.

The national economy now is based on information, applied science and technology, and on the distribution of the goods and services which they produce. Applied science and technology are dependent on the currency of information about research in the laboratory and its applications in the market place. Business and industry require data about all phases of the U.S. and foreign economies. The federal govenment is the primary source of information in all of these areas. Only the federal government has the distribution mechanisms to disseminate the

information it has created to all sectors and geographic areas of the United States.

The educational, business and industrial communities comprise a large portion of users of information produced by the Federal Government. These communities rely on libraries for that data. Increasingly, these communities want that information in electronic format rather than ink on paper. The Depository Library Program is the primary mechanism by which federal information is disseminated; therefore, it is essential that this program include machine readable data files - whether they be transmitted online by telecommunications, or by mailed optical disk or tape. Information format should not be a barrier to its inclusion in the Depository Library Program.

Distribution of federally produced machine readable data files will ensure that people have access to the data they need. In addition, significant savings can be realized by government and libraries while increasing the productivity of data users. Federal policy must support the information economy and provide for appropriate information dissemination.

Submissions from Private Organizations

Information Industry Association
316 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20003
202/544-1969
Cable: INFORMASSN WASHINGTON

1985 JUL 26 AM 11: 02

July 26, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
305 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

In late 1982, the Joint Committee on Printing (JCP) established an Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Databases. The final report of the Ad Hoc Committee, Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries, was issued in December 1984. In response to the request by JCP staff at the June 26 open forum, I am providing comments on behalf of the Information Industry Association.

The Information Industry Association represents over 400 companies involved in the generation, distribution, and use of information products and services. Many of our members provide the public, including the library community (Federal depositories, academic, public, special, and government) with access to government information. We are therefore vitally interested in the issues addressed by this report.

This nation is now entering an information age wherein an increasing amount of information, both public and private, is being created, maintained and distributed in various electronic media. The computer and communications technologies now emerging create both new opportunities and new challenges for managing our nation's information resources efficiently and effectively. Recognizing these issues, the Ad Hoc Committee was established and asked to address three questions: what and how much Federal government information is in electronic format? do depository libraries have the ability to access the new formats? and what are the costs and benefits of providing information in electronic format? These are critical questions. Unfortunately, the report of the Ad Hoc Committee only provides information regarding the ability of depository libraries to access information in electronic formats.

Government Information in Electronic Format

The Executive Branch has over 20,000 computers and an even greater number of databases. The vast majority of Federal databases have been established for the purpose of facilitating the administrative and operational activities of government agencies. It is unlikely that public access to all of these databases is intended, appropriate or feasible. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to make a decision regarding the appropriate level of public access to Federal databases without knowing the number and types of such databases that exist. This is especially important in addressing the issue of access by depository libraries, inasmuch as the survey conducted by the Ad Hoc Committee indicates that there is no unanimity as to the Federal databases that should be made available.

There also appears to be a statutory impediment not addressed by the Report. It is clear from our reading of the statute that information in electronic media does not fall within the definition of "government publication" contained in Section 1901, Title 44 of the United States Code: "...informational matter which is published as an individual document."

Costs and Benefits of Depository Library Access

The second question that must be answered is what are the costs and benefits of providing depository library access to government information in electronic format. Without such information, there is a danger of placing an unwarranted burden upon the Federal Treasury at a time of unprecedented budget deficits. As an illustration, we recommend that the Committee consider the following example: providing depository library access to the National Library of Medicine databases.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) currently makes a number of databases available to the public. As has been acknowledged by the NLM, user fees do not recoup the full cost of providing these information services. Despite the Federal subsidies, users can pay as much as $60 per hour to access a single database. Providing each depository library with one hour of "free access" weekly would cost almost $80,000 per week and over $4 million annually. If the full cost of such service was paid by users, and not the Treasury, the bill would be even higher. When the development and maintenance costs associated with providing similar access to databases not currently available to the public are considered, it is obvious that the annual cost could be hundreds of millions of dollars. These costs must be weighed against the benefits of making such information available at Federal expense.

We also note that the majority of libraries who provided an answer to the Ad Hoc Committee survey indicated that they wish to continue receiving government information in traditional media. Therefore, the costs of providing electronic access would be in addition to those already incurred by the depository library program.

Next Steps

Traditionally, government information has been made available to the public through a variety of sources, including directly from the sponsoring agency, through the depository library program, the Government Printing Office sales program, and through the development and dissemination of information products provided by the private sector. We believe this diversity of information channels has served the nation well and should be preserved as we enter the information age. In order to do so, we recommend the following course of action.

1. Continue to seek the information asked of the Ad Hoc Committee

The information requested of the Ad Hoc Committee is essential to an informed decisionmaking process. We therefore urge that further effort be devoted to obtaining this information.

2. Develop criteria for the pilot projects

The Ad Hoc Committee has recommended that pilot projects be undertaken to explore the feasibility of providing depository libraries with access to government information in electronic media. While we do not necessarily believe that the foundation for such projects has been laid by this report, we can understand the rationale underlying this recommendation. However, before initiating such projects, we believe that considerable work needs to be done. In particular, we believe that specific criteria for designing, funding, implementing, managing, and evaluating these projects must be developed before they are undertaken.

3. Ensure that the projects contain all viable alternatives

If the pilot projects are undertaken, they should permit consideration of all possible alternatives for providing public access to government information in electronic media. These alternatives include both public and private mechanisms. We would also recommend that access to selected legislative databases be a part of any pilot project undertaken.

4. Review the legal environment governing depository libraries

The Information Industry Association believes it is now timely to undertake a review of the legal, regulatory, and policy framework within which public access to government information is provided. Many of the existing laws and regulations are archaic remnants of another era. As we move towards the 21st Century it is appropriate to decide whether changes are needed in the laws and policies to ensure an appropriate level of public access to government information and to preserve the diversity of information distribution channels. The current draft OMB policy circular is a critically important step in this direction. Equally important are the continuing efforts for an omnibus revision of Title 44, U.S. Code and attendant regulations.

5. Reassess the depository library program

During the open forum on June 26, the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee and the Staff Director of the Joint Committee on Printing indicated that an indepth study of the depository library program is to be undertaken, as a part of an overall long-range plan for the GPO. We fully support this study, and trust that the IIA will be invited to play a role in its conduct. As indicated earlier, information technology provides new opportunities and new challenges. As the public and private sectors seek to take advantage of these technologies we must reevaluate the organizational structures established to meet past needs.

6. Reconstitute the Ad Hoc Committee

It has been suggested that the Ad Hoc Committee may be continued for the purpose of addressing some of the above issues. While some continuing group is desireable, a number of the Committee members may no longer be available. We therefore suggest that consideration be given to reconstituting the Committee into a number of small advisory groups. This may be a more effective way to address the issues that have been

identified. This approach would permit immediate action on some aspects of the problem, and also provide an opportunity to undertake further study of the more complex issues.

The information industry supports the concept of continued public access to government information maintained in electronic media. At the same time, we believe that much work remains to be done in order to ensure that such access is provided in the most efficient and effective manner. On behalf of the Information Industry Association, we look forward to continuing to work with the Joint Committee on Printing on these critically important issues.

Sincerely,

Kenneth B. Allen

Kenneth B. Allen
Vice-President,
Government Relations
Information Industry Association

RICE UNIVERSITY

P.O. BOX 1892
HOUSTON, TEXAS
77251-1892

THE FONDREN LIBRARY

June 24, 1985

Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in response to the notice by the Joint Committee on Printing of a public forum to gather information on the availability of government publications in electronic format through federal depository libraries. As Chairperson of the Patent Depository Library Council, I would like to propose an evaluation of a current data base, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Classification and Search Support Information System (CASSIS).

CASSIS has been available to the public for two years through the Patent Depository Libraries. During this period it has been used by over 50 libraries. These libraries have already collected some information on the number and type of users, equipment costs, staff time, etc. Therefore, these libraries are willing through the Patent Depository Library Council to coordinate with the Joint Committee on Printing an evaluation of the effectiveness of CASSIS.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kile

Barbara Kile, Chair
Patent Depository Library Council

To: Carol Turner, Government Documents, Stanford
From: John Haeger, VP, Research Libraries Group, Inc.

Since RLG is unable, for reasons of schedule, to be represented at the public forum sponsored by the Joint Committee on Printing tomorrow in Washington, I would appreciate your sharing the following points on our behalf.

1. RLG believes strongly that the federal government should continue the distribution to depositories of information produced with public funds.

2. We believe that major research universities must and will establish the capacity to collect, process, store and provide access to machine-readable data files of all kinds (including those which might be distributed by GPO).

3. MRDFs distributed pursuant to GPO's depository program should be cataloged by GPO in the MARC MRDF format, and that data distributed as it is now for hard-copy material.

4. Once we know more about the kinds of material which might be distributed in machine-readable form, we would be interested in considering whether some of that material should be held on-line in RLIN.

5. We would also be interested in exploring the possibility that RLIN could be configured to serve as a "gateway" to government-generated data held on-line on other hosts. Development projects already underway lay a technical foundation for such scenarios.

To: CN.GOV@STANFORD
cc: BL.BJB, BL.RWM

Special Libraries Association

235 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10003

212/477-9250

July 12, 1985

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

The attached statement is being submitted for inclusion in the official hearing record of the Joint Committee on Printing's public forum on electronic federal information to depository libraries.

The Special Libraries Association is most appreciative of the opportunity to submit this statement and to have participated in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases.

With best wishes and personal regards, I remain,

Cordially,

David R Bender

David R. Bender
Executive Director
Special Libraries Association

David R. Bender, Executive Director

Richard E. Griffin, Associate Executive Director

STATEMENT OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

FOR INCLUSION IN THE HEARING RECORD

OF THE PUBLIC FORUM ON ELECTRONIC

FEDERAL INFORMATION TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

JUNE 26, 1985

JULY 12, 1985

David R. Bender, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Special Libraries Association
235 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10003
(212) 477-9250

Special Libraries Association

STATEMENT

The Special Libraries Association is a professional society of over 11,500 librarians, information specialists, managers and brokers. Special librarians serve industry, business, government, research, education and technical agencies, special departments of public and university libraries and other organizations, both in the for-profit and not for profit sectors.

The Association and its members are concerned with programs whereby public documents and government information are easily accessible and readily available to the special library community and where information and knowledge are disseminated for the general welfare of all users. Special librarians are heavy users of electronic information and the Association has a special interest in advancing the uses of the new information technologies.

We commend the Joint Committee on Printing for establishing the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases. We appreciate having had the opportunity to have one of our members, Margaret Conyngham, participate in the Committee's deliberations. The SLA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Committee's report, Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries, issued in December 1984.

The Special Libraries Association endorses the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee for provision of Federal information in electronic format to depository libraries and for pilot projects to test the alternate methods of dissemination of government information. The pilots should reflect the varying needs and capabilities of the depository libraries and enable them, regardless of type or size, to enhance access to government information by the public. Electronic data bases quickly add to the resources of a small collection. Online data bases are not time or distance dependent and may enable users to have equitable access regardless of physical location. A real opportunity exists to enhance access to information in geographically isolated areas or those which are "information poor". Opportunities should exist for various regional and network configurations.

SLA especially commends the Ad Hoc Committee for recognizing opportunities for cooperative ventures among participants involved in the pilot projects. New organizational relationships will emerge between the depository libraries, the Government Printing Office and the government agency suppliers of information. Well designed pilot projects will test ways to address the valid concerns and real contributions of the public and private sectors to provide access to government information. The outcome of the pilot projects may provide the opportunity for future joint public/private sector cooperative efforts.

As the Joint Committee on Printing, in consultation with the Ad Hoc Committee, establishes criteria and evaluates proposals for the pilot projects, the following considerations should be addressed:

There will be a real need to agree to provide information in standardized electronic format so that all potential users may benefit. Adherence to appropriate publishing and bibliographic standards should be maintained.

While many of the libraries have indicated familiarity with bibliographic searching, the added interest in access to textual and numeric databases will require easy to use software and training on the part of the library staff and end users.

Special attention should be given to providing a representative sampling in the pilots of those electronic databases which will serve the widest possible audience, to include members of the medical, scientific, legal, corporate and academic communities as well as the needs of the public at large.

The potential exists for storage and distribution of large amounts of data on optical disks. Inclusion of this electronic format in one of the pilots would provide a useful test of this new application.

The Special Libraries Association supports the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee for a strong monitoring program to determine the value of the pilot projects, as well as their economic feasibility, and to assess the impact on the users of the electronic information. As a research effort, the pilots should aim to provide empirical evidence and make a significant contribution to the continuing discussion of electronic information, the depository library system and to the broader consideration of federal information policy.

Submissions from Federal Agencies

U.S. Department of Labor
Commissioner for
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212

Centennial
of Labor
Statistics

JUL 5 1985

1985 JUL 18 AM 9 3

Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on
Rules and Administration
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am responding to your inquiry about Federal information available to depository libraries in electronic form.

Major news releases of the Bureau of Labor Statistics have been available in electronic form since November 1982. These releases include the Consumer Price Index, the Producer Price Index, the Employment Situation, and other key economic indicators widely used by government, business, and labor, to adjust payments, escalate contracts, and set policy.

Because interest in BLS economic indicators is greatest immediately after their release, electronic access is likely to be of considerable interest to libraries that now receive only mail copies of the releases.

Libraries can gain online access to the Bureau's economic indicators within minutes of their release through a computer center with which BLS has a time-sharing arrangement, Electronic Data Systems. Because BLS releases are in the public domain, there is no charge for the information. Users pay only for the computer time used, at the average rate of $15 per hour. Access costs range from $6 to $30 per release, depending on length of release, speed of transmission, and type of equipment used.

We will be glad to cooperate in making the BLS Electronic News Release Service available for the pilot program being planned by the Joint Committee on Printing. Henry Lowenstern of my staff can provide further information.

Sincerely yours,

Janet L. Norwood

JANET L. NORWOOD
Commissioner

THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

June 25, 1985

Dear Senator Mathias:

The Library of Congress has reviewed the report of the Joint Committee on Printing entitled "Provision of Federal Governmental Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries." The Library of Congress had a representative on your Ad Hoc Committee. I would like to make the Library's comments in writing for the record.

Not surprisingly, librarians who were surveyed identified in order of preference the LC MARC (Machine Readable Cataloging) tapes as the number two item currently being accessed electronically by their libraries.

The Library of Congress MARC Distribution Service is one of the most important services offered through the Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS). These MARC records are not floppy disc databases easily accessed by an individual sitting at a personal computer work station; rather, they require large mainframe and/or minicomputer environments and significant technical expertise in order to make them usable. Consequently, these records are only purchased by a relatively small number of large libraries; they are also purchased by the four major bibliographic utilities and major online information brokers who then make them available to many U.S. libraries.

If the LC MARC databases are included in the depository library program, the demand for these services from CDS would decline dramatically, because of free availability to these large libraries through such a program; therefore, current prices for these services would rise, since CDS is mandated by a 1902 Act of Congress (2 U.S.C. 150) to cover cost plus 10 percent. This would have a negative impact for all non-depository libraries, because the bibliographic utilities and commercial firms that would continue to subscribe to the MARC services would, in turn, charge higher prices to compensate for the rise in their costs.

CDS sells Library of Congress bibliographic products and services to libraries throughout the nation. Since incoming revenues are received by CDS, it is not fully appropriated; currently, $4.3 million must be earned each year to support its operating budget. Cooperatively-produced Library items sold by CDS have been exempt from depository library distribution and the MARC tapes and MARC-generated products are not currently part of the depository program. All other publications of the Library are available through the depository system.

With respect to the electronic databases prepared by the Congressional Research Service for use by the Congress of the United States, the Joint Committee on the Library clarified the intent that these products be available exclusively for the use of the Congress in a policy statement dated March 21, 1980.

As you know, I am a great supporter of government information being widely available to the American public. The MARC database is an important bibliographic tool for the use of all libraries and it would appear to penalize non-depository libraries should we have to raise the subscription prices to meet our statutory obligations if tapes were being sent to depository libraries free. In these times of stringent budgets, it is highly unlikely that the Library of Congress could receive a subsidy to cover a decrease in revenue because of free distribution to depository libraries. Libraries realize a significant savings by using cataloging information provided by the Library of Congress. I would appreciate it if your Committee would give this matter serious attention when developing the pilot program recommended in the report.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Boorstin
The Librarian of Congress

The Honorable
Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee
on Printing
Washington, D.C. 20510

National Archives

Washington, DC 20408

July 29, 1985

Ms. Bernadine Hoduski, Chairperson
Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access
to Federal Automated Data Bases
Joint Committee on Printing
Rm. S-151, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ms. Hoduski:

I have read the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries, and several of my staff attended the Open Forum on Electronic Federal Information to Depository Libraries on June 26, 1985. I am aware of the interest expressed by depository librarians in electronic access to several of the publications prepared by this office including the Federal Register, Code of Federal Regulations, and Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents.

If a determination is made to go forward with pilot projects as discussed in the Report, and if Federal Register publications are selected for inclusion, you may be sure that this Office will cooperate and work with you, the Ad Hoc Committee, and the Government Printing Office on arranging a pilot.

If we can provide additional information or you would like to discuss this further, please contact Carol Mahoney of this Office on 523-5240.

Sincerely,

JOHN E. BYRNE
Director of the Federal Register

Submissions from Libraries

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
TEMPE, ARIZONA 85287

June 20, 1985

MS. BERNADINE HODUSKI
Joint Committee on Printing
U.S. Capitol, Room S151
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ms. Hoduski:

Arizona State University Libraries is most interested in participating in the Committee's pilot project to consider depository library access to government publications in electronic form. This library would be best equipped to participate in the program if dial-up access were provided to governmental data bases, especially if existing data bases were brought together in one on-line system. The Committee might consider contracting out to a University such as Arizona State University, or other appropriate institutions, to load the governmental data base tapes and provide depository libraries with dial-up access to the system.

ASU is a large selective depository serving 40,000 students in the greater metropolitan Phoenix area. We subscribe to Dialog and BRS, as well as other services, and are a patent depository library.

Attached is a list of data bases that this library would find most useful.

Thank you,

Donis A. Casey

(Ms.) Donis A. Casey
Head, Government Documents Service
Arizona State University Libraries
Tempe, Arizona 85287

Telephone: (602) 965-3387

Enclosure:

Arizona State University Libraries is most interested in access to the following data bases:

MESH
Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications
Federal Register
Code of Federal Regulations
Publications Reference File
ERIC
Index Medicus
NCJRS
Congressional Record
NTIS
STAR - NASA RECON
SCORPIO
AGRICOLA
Executive Orders
Products of the Bureau of Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Commerce, the Internal Revenue Service, Congress, and the Patent Office

GEORGE LATIMER
MAYOR

CITY OF SAINT PAUL
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

PUBLIC LIBRARY
90 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
612-292-6311

July 30, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Senate Hart Office Building SH-818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

As Director of the Saint Paul Public Library, I would like to join Joseph Kimbrough, my counterpart at the Minneapolis Public Library, from whom you heard the other day, in enthusiastically suggesting that the Federal depository libraries in the Twin Cities metropolitan area be chosen to participate in the proposed pilot program for depository library access to Federal automated data bases. The library community in the Twin Cities is characterized by an unusually high level of networking and cooperation and the depository librarians across the cities have a cordial and close working relationship which would make such a project a model of its kind. In addition, our depository librarian is the editor of newsletters sent out to depository librarians and others interested in government publications throughout the Twin Cities and the State of Minnesota and would be able to give wide and thoughtful publicity to the progress and results of our project.

The Saint Paul Public Library has been a depository library since 1914. We are a medium sized depository, taking about half of the publications available through the depository program. We are not a research library but an up-to-date information center heavily used by the public, students, businesses, and state and local government offices (Saint Paul is the seat of State Government and also the home of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities Area). We already provide commercial electronic data base searching services to our users from a terminal located in our Government Publications Office, in addition to terminals in other subject areas, and we would welcome the opportunity to help explore the possibilities and potential problems of offering access to Federal electronic data bases as well.

Our library is in the unique position of sharing its building site with another library, the privately endowed James Jerome Hill Reference Library, which specializes in reference services to businesses, particularly small businesses, throughout the Twin Cities area. Our depository's participation in a pilot project would provide benefits to their users as well, and also to the staff, members and clients of the new Minnesota World Trade Center, currently being built five blocks away from our library.

I agree with Mr. Kimbrough that the depository libraries in our area are in a particularly advantageous position to conduct a useful and successful pilot project in exploring optimum ways of delivering access to Federal automated data bases. We would be in a position to help formulate and solve questions of hardware, software, staff time and training, and evaluate the usefulness, public demand and cost effectiveness of this venture. Whatever the outcome of this request or of any pilot project, we look forward to continued cooperation with Twin Cities area libraries in making government information available to the public.

Sincerely,

Gerald W. Steenberg
Library Director

GWS:ngb

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT:

INDICATION OF INTEREST IN PARTICIPATION IN JCP PILOT PROJECT

Name: Fred C. Schmidt, Documents Librarian

Institution: Colorado State Univeraity Libraries

Answer by circling the most appropriate statement and/or by providing comments. Please return the questionnaire to the ARL Office no later than June 24, 1985.

(1.) We are interested in participating in a pilot project and are preparing, or intend to prepare, a specific proposal. (If available, please provide a brief description of your proposal.)

2. We are interested in participating in a pilot project but have not yet developed a specific proposal.

3. We have no interest in participating in such a pilot project.

Comments:

See Attached.

0311I 6/6/85

Colorado State University Libraries (CSUL) is interested in participating in a pilot project to make available federal government information in electronic format to our clientele. As a land grant institution, CSUL serves clientele beyond the bounds of the University; namely, citizens on a statewide basis through the University Extension Service. These Extension Service personnel and clients are examples of the type of target groups that can be served through depository electronic databases.

CSUL makes heavy use of the following federal databases: AGRICOLA; CRIS/USDA; DOE/RECON; EDB; ERIC; GPO MOCAT; MEDLINE; NTIS; SSIE; and WATER RESOURCES. Others receiving moderate use include: APTIC; AQUACULTURE; AQUATIC SCI FISH ABSTR; CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT DB; FISHERIES INFO SYSTEM; IRIS; HEALTH PLAN. & ADMIN.; LC MARC; TRIS; and TSCA INITIAL INVENTORY. Depository status of these databases would greatly enhance the CSUL information services capability at a considerably reduced cost.

Columbia University in the City of New York | New York, N.Y. 10027

THE LIBRARIES

535 West 114th Street

July 23, 1985

Senator Charles Mc C. Mathias, Jr.
Joint Committee on Printing
Room 818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I am writing to indicate the avid interest of the Columbia University Libraries in participating in a pilot project on the provision of government information in electronic format to Depository Libraries. We have much expertise in the use and service of electronic data bases in many formats and are prepared to apply that experience and knowledge to this project.

The Columbia University Libraries are particularly interested in statistical data, topographical maps, and technical reports and texts in electronic format but we are eager to participate in the pilot project program regardless of content or form. The Libraries, together with other specialized information centers on campus (including the Center for Computing Activities, the Center for the Social Sciences, and the Learning Center), provide the basic information infrastructure for the University and its constituency through the Scholarly Information Center. Participation in the JCP pilot project would be consistent with our objectives and activities while extending our experience to serve all users of our depository collections.

I look forward to being contacted once the pilot projects are identified.

Sincerely,

Paula T. Kaufman
Director, Library Services Group

PTK:cm

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY
231 Capitol Avenue • Hartford, Connecticut 06106

June 10, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
United States Senate
818 Hart Senate Offfice Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

Congresswoman Nancy Johnson, Representative, Sixth District, Connecticut, referrad your letter of May 29, 1985, regarding the Joint Committee on Printing's public forum on "Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries," to me. First, I write to support the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases, and second, to volunteer the Connecticut State Library to be a pilot project library.

As stated in the "Findings" section of the report of the Joint Committee: "Some government agencies are making their publications electronically available to the public either directly, or through data base providers and vendors...Many business offices and research and academic institutions regularly use such services...But many U.S. citizens will have no access to this data, unless it is provided to them through the depository libraries." As a Regional Federal Depository Library, the Connecticut State Library supports the concept of free public access to government information and believes that the addition of data bases to the depository program is a necessary and timely step toward achieving this goal.

The Connecticut State Library would welcome the opportunity to participate in a pilot project that would provide free access to online search services for the public. We believe that our institution's wide-ranging programs enable us to serve a particularly broad segment of the public. We are one of the few regional federal depositories to serve two states (Connecticut and Rhode Island). In the past two years, patron use (walk-in, telephone, and interlibrary loan) of federal documents has more than doubled, from 125 transactions per week in 1983 to 275 transactions per week in 1985. In the past ten years, the number of items received from the Government Printing Office has increased 167%, while the State Library staff required to process, maintain, and retrieve information for the public has increased 33%. The growth in the public's use of federal documents contributed to the 1985 addition of online search services through OCLC and Dialog for the State Library's Government Documents/General Reference Unit.

The Connecticut State Library's involvement in federal documents (as well as state documents) is also unique among depository libraries, in that the

Library's departments and work units deliver public information service at every phase in the life cycle of a public document--from publication, indexing, maintenance and retrieval, through records retention and archives management.

The Connecticut State Library's Law/Legislative Reference Department also serves the public and state and local government officials. This department operates 13 branch law libraries throughout Connecticut. A 76.3% increase in reference questions on the U.S. Code, Code of Federal Regulations, case law searches, and judicial histories led the Connecticut State Library's Law Department to initiate online access to Lexis and Westlaw search services in 1984. Each year, the Connecticut State Library processes over 5,000 of these types of inquiries at its Hartford legislative reference center.

The recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases "to provide such access to electronic information...through pilot projects" is viewed by the Connecticut State Library as a "gateway" to increasing both the quantity of federal document information and the quality of the service provided by the State Library staff to the citizens of Connecticut.

The State Library encourages the Joint Committee on Printing to not only extend free electronic access to federal documents information but also to consider the rapid development of integrated microcomputer and optical laser disk technologies as a means of more economically providing the documents "on demand" to the public.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases. We hope that the Joint Committee will initiate pilot projects on free public access to the wealth of information contained in the automated data bases supported by federal government agencies and that the Connecticut State Library will be considered for such a pilot project.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence R. Walters
State Librarian

TY:nw

c: Representative Nancy Johnson
A. Bielefield
T. Yankus
J. Schwartz

1038A

CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
JOHN M. OLIN RESEARCH LIBRARY
Ithaca, New York 14853
607-256-3689

Office of the University Librarian

14 August 1985

Senator Charles Mathias
Chairman, Joint Committee
on Printing
Room 818
Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I write on behalf of Cornell University Libraries to express interest in participating in the Committee's pilot project program, Depository Library Access to Federal Government Information in Electronic Format.

Cornell University Libraries was first designated a depository for U.S. government documents in 1907. We strongly support the principles of the Depository Library Program with respect to the wide and free availability of government information to citizens, and we have shown our commitment over the years by acquiring, cataloging, binding, housing, lending and freely servicing these publications for the benefit of the Cornell community, the residents of the 28th Congressional District, and of the State of New York. Our library system is the eleventh largest university collection in the United States and includes a collection of tens of thousands of government documents.

Equally important is Cornell's maintenance and provision of access to government information in electronic format. Between three depository libraries (Olin Research Library, Mann Library of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and College of Human Ecology, the Cornell Law Library) and the Data Archive of the Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research (CISER), the University has established an excellent record of providing access to automated government information.

The following illustrations will document our efforts. Online bibliographic searches of ERIC, DOE, NASA and NTIS guide hundreds of scholars to our comprehensive microfiche collections of these government reports. Mann Library has just received a grant from the Council on Library Resources to determine the capability of a microcomputer and current mass-storage technology to support large files of bibliographic data, working with both the National Library of Medicine and the National Agricultural Library.

As a New York Coordinating Agency of the Census Bureau's State Data Center Program, Cornell maintains and services federal statistics on magnetic tape. The Libraries are assisting CISER in the development of an electornic New York State Information System (NYSIS) of social and economic data with user support software. Drawing heavily on government sources, NYSIS is intended to serve the information needs of researchers, the business community, local and state government, cooperative extension, and the citizens of New York State.

51-880 O—85——4

As a member of the Research Libraries Group, the Libraries already share their bibliographic records publicly through the automated RLIN system, including full MARC cataloging of our federal document holdings.

Worth noting is the National Science Foundation's selection of Cornell as one of four locations to develop national supercomputer centers. Cornell University offers an environment supporting the use and development of electronic information.

Time constraints have not allowed us to develop a formal pilot project proposal. To meet the deadline, we can only formally express our great interest in your Committee's program and our desire to be contacted when pilot projects are identified. We will be happy to supply you with further information. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

L. E. Martin

Louis E. Martin
University Librarian

LEM/pa

cc: M. McHugh
D. Moynihan
A. D'Amato

Duke University
Durham
North Carolina 27706

William R. Perkins Library

June 26, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., Chair
Joint Committee on Printing
U.S. Congress
Room 818
Hart Building
Washington, DC 20013

Dear Senator Mathias:

Duke University Library requests that the Joint Committee on Printing select the Public Documents/Maps Department, Duke University Library, as a participant in the Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases pilot project.

Duke University has a wide range of academic programs including a law school, a medical school, a graduate school of business, an engineering school, and an active and expanding public policy institute, all of which depend substantially on receipt of information through the Federal Depository Library Program. Continued receipt of Federal information in electronic format through the depository program is critical to carrying out the purpose and intent of Duke's academic programs, programs which benefit the public interest both directly and indirectly.

The Duke University Library as a depository since 1890 has consistently carried out its responsibilities to provide federal information free of charge to the general public in addition to serving the needs of the faculty, students, and staff. The University Library states its willingness and intention to continue its mandate and practice of providing federal information in electronic format to the general public free of charge.

Duke University is geographically located contiguous to Research Triangle Park, a nationally and internationally recognized center of research and development encompassing both the public and private sectors in nearly all fields of study. For the past 25 years the Duke University Library has been actively engaged in joint informational efforts and cooperation with the private industrial companies and the public institutions located in the Park. Duke University Library's proximity to other depository libraries is equally important. Eight other depository libraries in the Durham-Raleigh-Chapel Hill area include private and public libraries, including the North Carolina

State Library, a land grant institution, a small college library, and a regional depository library. Cooperative efforts among some of these libraries have been underway for some time through the Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN). Duke University Library's participation in the Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases pilot project would offer the Joint Committee on Printing a unique opportunity to evaluate organizational relationships, to observe public/private sector cooperative efforts, and to study the impact of the availability of federal automated data bases on users.

Duke University Libraries currently subscribe to several vendor electronic information systems and support staff training for those systems. The Library is willing to continue that support as a participant in the pilot project.

Further information regarding Duke University Library's participation in the Joint Committee on Printing's pilot project on depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases may be obtained from me at the address and telephone number below.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Marie L. Clark

Marie L. Clark, Head
Public Documents/Maps Department
Perkins Library
Duke University
Durham, NC 27706
(919) 684-2380

Through Florence Blakely

Florence Blakely
Acting University Librarian
Duke University

MC/bcb

EMORY UNIVERSITY
General Libraries
Robert W. Woodruff Library
Atlanta, Georgia 30322

July 9, 1985

Hon. Charles McC. Mathias, Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
SH-818 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Mathias:

This letter is written in support of the inclusion of federal government publications in electronic format in the depository library program.

We are all aware of the technological revolution that is changing the way information is supplied and processed. Materials that were formerly supplied to depository libraries such as ours in printed format are now sent in severely abridged size (if at all) with reference to a machine readable data base which must be purchased to obtain any additional information. As technology becomes more sophisticated and cheaper, and print costs escalate, the change to electronic format for large (if not most) amounts of government information becomes inevitable.

What does all this mean for the depository library program and the public's right to free access to government information that your Committee oversees? Clearly for the depository program to continue in any meaningful way it must have access to this new information format. My colleagues and I therefore are very pleased that your Committee has been willing to tackle this timely issue which has such far reaching implications. We hope that you will support what we believe is the obvious right first step in this effort, namely the creation of pilot projects as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth McBride
Head, Documents Department

EM/cc

Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332

Academic Affairs
Price Gilbert Memorial Library

August 1, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Chairman
The Joint Committee on Printing
8183 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I want to thank you for establishing the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases and your support of our efforts to obtain information in electronic format under the Depository Library Program. Your foresight and leadership in the application of technology to information distribution will help libraries to become more self sufficient while increasing the amount of information available to citizens at the local level.

The Georgia Tech Library supports the information requirements of research and teaching at the Institute, other libraries, business, industry and the public in the Southeastern United States. The Georgia Tech faculty and administration this year approved Library 2000, a project aimed at developing a showcase library to demonstrate the application of the latest information technology in an academic and research environment. Two major purposes of Library 2000 are to increase available information resources through the use of online services and optical disks and to demonstrate that the application of technology can enhance information awareness, retrieval efficiency and user productivity. Georgia Tech is uniquely qualified to lead in this area. The Library is one of the largest scientific and technical libraries in the nation. Tech's Schools of Electrical Engineering, and Information and Computer Science are outstanding in their respective disciplines.

We are currently exploring pilot programs using optical disks and online services with publishers and foundations. Within this context we are submitting to you two proposals for pilot projects to test the feasibility of including information in electronic formats in the Depository Library Program.

1. The first project would utilize a complete text data base of technical report series stored and distributed on an optical disk. Software should allow use of logical operators to search the standard bibliographic elements, as well as text. Complete text searching would provide greater information retrieval capability and would increase the probability of user success. Having the disk resident at the host library would allow extensive experimentation in direct end-user searching of the data base. Such end-user searching would not be possible if telecommunications charges were involved. End-user searching would provide observations about software quality and protocols helpful in developing a more effective information system.

The host library would supply the test site; professional staff to run the test; faculty, students, business/industry, and the general public to use the information system; and whatever evaluations of the system are requested. The Government would supply the disks, an optical disk player, a jukebox, if multiple disks are involved, a high speed laser printer, retrieval software, interface card, documentation, and an official contact at the information producing source able to assist with problems of accessing the data base.

2. The second project would access a data base composed of numeric and/or perishable information online from a remote site via telecommunications. This project would test the feasibility of using a data base at a remote site and downloading into a local microcomputer. Our preference is to have historical files locally available on optical disks with access to online files for current information.

The host library would provide the test site; professional staff to run the test; faculty, other reseachers, students, business/industry, and the general public as information users; and whatever evaluations of the system are requested. The Government would supply special equipment if required; code books and documentation; appropriate software; telecommunications costs; and an official contact at the information producing source able to assist in problems in the use of accessing protocol unique to the file and in answering questions about the information itself.

In keeping with my statement read before the Public Forum held by the Joint Committee on Printing on June 26, 1985, I strongly support the inclusion of electronic information in the Depository Library Program. This program is the only mechanism now available to the Federal Government for disseminating information to all citizens.

Sincerely,

Miriam A. Drake

Miriam A. Drake
Director of Libraies

cc: J.M. Pettit
H.C. Bourne
T. Stelson
R. Leacy
Georgia Congressional Delegation
House Government Operations Committee

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
GEORGIA SOUTHERN
THE LIBRARY
GEORGIA SOUTHERN COLLEGE
LANDRUM BOX 8074
STATESBORO, GEORGIA 30460-8074
TELEPHONE 912-681-5117

DOCUMENTS DEPARTMENT

18 June 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias
Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing
Russell Senate Office Building, Room 387A
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I have noted the announcement of a public meeting to be held 26 June 1985, for the discussion of electronic Federal information to Depository Libraries. Although I will not be able to attend this meeting, I have a deep interest in and concern for the continued provision of government produced information to our citizens through the depository library program. This should encompass all information which should properly be disseminated to the public, free of cost to the citizen user, but is in electronic format. Our nation's founding fathers were wise to know that informed, educated citizens make a strong nation, and the leaders that initiated the Depository Library Program knew that readily disseminated information generates greater results in research and knowledge.

If, as some would have it, the greater portion of information is left to commercial interests for dissemination only to those whose financial resources are adequate for the purchasing of it, those of us who cannot be counted among the heavily endowed and well funded universities and research centers, will soon become the socially handicapped and retarded, for lack of ability to purchase needed information for growth of knowledge. All students and citizens who rely on the smaller institutions with less resources, will be so affected.

I wish to state I support and urge that a pilot project be initiated to study the feasibility of inclusion of electronic information to Depository Libraries. It is imperative that all Depository Libraries have capabilities for searching and transfer of information with technologically advanced methods, irrespective of financial resources.

Thank you very much for your work with and support of the very worthwhile Depository Library Program.

Sincerely,

Lynn G. Walshak

Lynn G. Walshak, Head
Government Documents Dept.

cc: Julius Ariail
Director of Libraries

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

The William Robert Parks and
Ellen Sorge Parks Library

Ames, Iowa 50011

July 19, 1985

Hon. Charles Mathias, Jr., Vice Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I want to warmly commend your committee for its interest in examining the distribution of government publications in an electronic format to GPO depository libraries and wish to add my comments and support to those presented to your committee by the Association of Research Libraries and the American Library Association. As an ARL library and a government depository since 1907, the Iowa State University Library is proud of its long history of service to the citizens of Iowa in need of such information, and we are strongly encouraged by the current steps you are taking.

Today, more than at any time in our past, due primarily to our society's rapid scientific and technological advances, the demands made upon major research libraries for more and better information have become almost overwhelming. Libraries such as Iowa State are the ideal link through which this increasing mass of information can be made available, yet because of its sheer volume, we as librarians need every advantage possible not only to receive this material quickly but to communicate it accurately and in a timely manner to an ever increasing number of users. The online access to government publications now under discussion would be of great and lasting benefit to Iowa citizens and indeed to all depository centers throughout the United States.

Iowa State has for many years concentrated on promoting and broadening the use of governmental information and has created any number of innovative approaches for this purpose. The newly expanded central Parks Library building at Iowa State has made this effort one of its focal points in design and remodeling. Not only is the ISU Library technologically equipped to handle and disseminate electronic information, but we also have further organized our public services to support such new and broader services. Currently, our Information Services Department has twelve librarians providing general reference and government publications information. These professionals have had in-depth training in computer database searching and use, and in addition to specific literature searches, the Library provides electronic ready-reference service as well. The Library further serves as the integral supplier for Iowa

and several surrounding states for United States Department of Agriculture personnel. We are also, in cooperation with the Iowa State Historical Department, coordinating the work on the cataloging and preservation of all Iowa newspapers as part of the U. S. Newspaper program. Iowa is one of four states selected to initiate this important endeavor.

The Iowa State University Library is a recognized research leader in the Midwest and nationally with a long history of active participation and support of the U. S. GPO depository program. We have available the electronic capability and trained staff, as well as the desire, to serve as one of the proposed pilot project libraries if we are selected.

We greatly appreciate this opportunity to express our thoughts on this matter and wish your committee every success in its continuing deliberations.

Sincerely,

Warren B. Kuhn
Dean of Library Services

WBK/bb
cc: Senator Charles Grassley
Senator Thomas Harkin

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Library
Ames, Iowa 50011

June 18, 1985

Senator Charles Mathias, Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
Room SR-387
Russell Office Bldg.
Delaware & Constitution Aves.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

Alvin Tofler in his book Future Shock tells how important it is to be able to adapt to the changes which we are experiencing at increasing speed. The changes wrought by the electronic information age are every bit as profound as the changes brought by the printing press in the Sixteenth Century. Librarians are recognizing the need for acces to electronically stored information if they are to satisfy the information needs of their patrons. The depository library program can be no exception to this need for access to electronically stored information. For the federal government in an effort to be more efficient has developed numerous electronically stored data bases in lieu of previously issued paper publications.

When a data base contains information which is of general public interest and educational value, it should be made available to the depository libraries. How it is made available is not as important as its availability. It could be directly from the agency, through GPO or through a private sector vendor. It doesn't matter as long as they are available without charge to the depository libraries as are paper and microfiche titles issued by the federal government.

It makes sense to conduct pilot projects to help determine the best means of electronic access to federal information as well as the implications of such a program. Please make every effort to fund such projects.

Sincerely,

Philip Van De Voorde

Philip Van De Voorde
Head, Information Services Dept.

/ch

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
KENT, OHIO 44242

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

June 19, 1985

Jaia Barrett
Association of Research Libraries
1527 New Hampshire Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms. Barrett:

Enclosed is our completed survey form on the JCP's Pilot Project and our preliminary proposal. The issue of access to government information stored electronically has ever increasing importance. I feel the JCP's Pilot Project could help insure continued access to government information, regardless of the format it's in.

We appreciate your representation in Washington on June 26.

Cordially,

Liese Adams
Documents Librarian

Kent State University Supports Equal Opportunity in Education and Employment

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT:

INDICATION OF INTEREST IN PARTICIPATION IN JCP PILOT PROJECT

Name: Dr. Donald L. Tolliver

Institution: Kent State University Libraries

Answer by circling the most appropriate statement and/or by providing comments. Please return the questionnaire to the ARL Office no later than June 24, 1985.

1. We are interested in participating in a pilot project and are preparing, or intend to prepare, a specific proposal. (If available, please provide a brief description of your proposal.)

2. We are interested in participating in a pilot project but have not yet developed a specific proposal.

3. We have no interest in participating in such a pilot project.

Comments:

(See the attached proposal) - prepared by Liese Adams, Documents Librarian

0311I 6/6/85

Kent State University Library is interested in the prospect of participating in the Joint Committee on Printing's Pilot Project. Government Publications in electronic formats will provide better access to information, often more quickly than print form, and from an infinite number of locations.

As a major academic research library, Kent State University (KSU), has been a selective depository library since 1962. KSU is committed to the use of advanced technology as illustrated by its early association with OCLC and implementation of other online searching services.

KSU is a member of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Ohionet, the North East Ohio Major Academic Libraries (NEOMAL), and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). Dial access, either direct or through OCLC or DIALOG, is our preferred method of participation, although our computer center would be capable of utilizing computer tapes. The Library will expand its online service points from one to three, effective September 1985. Additional public service staff will be trained to accommodate this increased emphasis.

It is our recommendation that all participants in the pilot program have access to the GPO Monthly Catalog, PRF, and NTIS, since their coverage is so broad. Participation in the subject areas of business, health care, law and government, and education would best serve our public.

We propose to place terminals in the departments of Business, Education, and Nursing to be used by trained graduate students and faculty. Data would be collected at each site to measure how the service is used, the level of demand, and the quality of the training. Training procedures would be developed in cooperation with KSU's Instructional Resources Center. Databases relevant to law and government are useful to many KSU programs and the general public. We'd like to publicize the availability of these databases to social service and law enforcement agencies and other local officals. Databases relevant to the subject areas mentioned above are:

*BUSINESS

Cendata
BLS Consumer Price Index
BLS Labor Statistics
BLS Employment, Hours, and Earnings
U.S. Exports

*EDUCATION

ERIC
U.S. Public School Directory

*LAW AND GOVERNMENT

National Criminal Justice Reference Service
U.S. Public Laws
United States Code
Code of Federal Regulations
Federal Register
Congressional Record
Child Abuse and Neglect

*Graduate/Doctoral programs in these areas are offered at KSU. The print equivalents of these are well used.

Metronet

228 Metro Square Building
7th and Robert Streets
St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone 612/224-4801

August 5, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Jr.
Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
Hart Office Building SH818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

We have reviewed with interest and enthusiasm the proposal submitted to the Joint Committee on Printing by the Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center. We heartily endorse this proposal which, if funded, would involve this areas library and information services in a meaningful and forward-looking pilot project.

The members of Metronet include nearly four hundred public, academic, corporate, hospital, government agency, research and school libraries in the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Minneapolis Public Library is one of the largest of our members and one of the most supportive of multitype cooperation. Staff of the Minneapolis Public Library Government Documents Depository have made particular efforts to assure access to the rich resources, both recorded and human, offered by Minneapolis Public Library to the full community. They have also taken an active role in Metronet's efforts to address the overarching issues of access to government information and to the challenge of assuring efficient access through new formats made possible with emerging information and communication technology.

Metronet is in a particular position to cooperate with the Minneapolis Public Library and with other area depositories in this initiative. Over the past three years we have developed several electronic data bases of metro regional information. We have worked closely with the areas's libraries to establish protocols, pricing arrangements, training and access modes. We have learned a great deal which we would happily share with anyone involved in this much larger effort.

We support whole heartedly this excellent proposal and we commend the staff of Minneapolis Public Library for taking the initiative to involve us all in this challenging pilot project. We assure you that we will cooperate in any way we can to assure that the project involves all types of libraries in this broad region.

Thank you for your leadership in developing this important program. We look forward to working closely with the Joint Committee and with the Minneapolis Public Library in implementation of this pilot project.

Sincerely,

Mary Treacy Birmingham
Director

cc: Joseph Kimbrough

MTB/kp

melsa
A Federation of Public Libraries

Metropolitan Library Service Agency
Griggs-Midway Building, Room S-322
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104
Telephone: (612) 645-5731

Director: William M. Duncan

August 2, 1985

ANOKA
County Library
1100 90th Ave. NE
Blaine, MN 55434

CARVER
County Library System
P. O. Box 96
1600 Arboretum Boulevard
Victoria, MN 55386

DAKOTA
County Library System
1340 Wescott Road
Eagan, MN 55123

HENNEPIN
County Library
Ridgedale Drive
at Plymouth Road
Minnetonka, MN 55343

MINNEAPOLIS
Public Library and
Information Center
Central Library
300 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

RAMSEY
County Public Library
1910 West County Road B
Roseville, MN 55113

SCOTT
County Library System
428 South Holmes
Shakopee, MN 55379

ST. PAUL
Public Library
90 West Fourth St.
St. Paul, MN 55102

WASHINGTON
County Library
3825 Lake Elmo Avenue North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Senate Hart Office Building SH-818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

The Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA) is a federation of nine public libraries in the Minneapolis/St. Paul seven county metro area. One of the goals of MELSA is to facilitate the best possible public library reference service to all the residents of this service area. MELSA supports the Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center's request to be designated a pilot project library in the Electronic Library for Government Publications project.

Approximately 50% of the citizens of Minnesota are serviced by the public libraries of the Metropolitan Library Service Agency. Residents of this seven county metro area represent a highly mobile population crossing political boundaries daily for work, entertainment and to fulfill their information needs. The Metropolitan Council noted in their most recent Travel Behavior Inventory Report (1982) that there are 903,000 person trips into the city of Minneapolis and an additional 149,000 person trips into the Minneapolis central business district on a daily basis.

The Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center as a member of MELSA plays a central role in providing quality reference service and materials to all the residents of the seven county metro area by participating in MELSA's Reference Referral Network. This program makes it possible for residents in the MELSA area to receive answers to reference questions & receive circulated materials drawing upon the major and in-depth resources of the Minneapolis library. In 1986 it is expected the Minneapolis Public Library will answer some 300,000-plus questions and circulate 370,000-plus materials to residents outside their immediate service area.

The Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center has developed extensive subject departmental resource collections and reference research expertise that would provide an effective background for designation as a Pilot Library in the Electronic for Government Publication project.

Sincerely,

Fzvee Morris,
MELSA Program Officer

cc: J.Kimbrough
Director, MPLIC

Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Joseph Kimbrough, *Director*

300 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

612 / 372 6500

July 24, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Senate Hart Office Building SH-818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

The Minneapolis Public Library has studied with interest the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases. Because Minnesota has a particularly active information community and a variety of networks which foster cooperative projects, we would like to propose that depository libraries in the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area participate in the Pilot Program.

The Twin Cities area is rich in both information resources and information users, since it is the seat of the state government, the home of the University of Minnesota, and the headquarters for a large number of corporations. Twelve depository libraries are found in the Twin Cities, including the regional at the University of Minnesota. There are twenty-four depositories in the state.

The Minneapolis Public Library has been a depository library since 1893, and is the largest selective depository in the state. As such, this library is committed to providing the citizens, organizations and businesses of this city and metropolitan area with the broadest possible access to government publications. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in a Pilot Project to provide access to government publications in electronic format.

Data base searches are now provided for our patrons from several commercial data base networks, using an Apple IIe computer. Since we maintain a complete patent depository collection, we also search the CASSIS system. Staff members in all subject areas perform searches, and complete statistics are kept.

THE
LIBRARY
1885 100 1985

The Minneapolis Public Library also provides a fee-based research service, INFORM, which provides specialized reference service and extensive data base searches for those who choose to pay for extra services.

Our clientele makes use of a broad range of government publications. A Pilot Project could help determine efficient ways of providing these publications as they become available in new formats. We participate in the MINITEX, MELSA, and Metronet networks, and would use those networks to share this information as appropriate.

The depository libraries of Minnesota are committed to providing to their patrons government information in all forms. At the same time, they realize that there are special problems involved in providing access to publications in electronic format. The requirements for hardware, software, and staff time and training, will only be discovered through trial projects. The depository libraries in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area would like to be a part of the Pilot Project Program, to determine how such a program can work in a cooperative situation.

Issues of public demand, information usability, and staff time will be of particular interest. We at the Minneapolis Public Library look forward to working with other libraries in our area to determine the best ways to continue to make government information available.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Kimbrough

Joseph Kimbrough, Director
Minneapolis Public Library, and
President, Minnesota Library
Association

JK:djs

Depository libraries in the Metro Area

Olivet

Olivet College Library 0279C
Documents Section
49076 (1974)
(616) 749-7608

Petoskey

North Central Michigan College Library 0247
One Gaslight Avenue
49770 (1962)
(616) 347-3973, ext. 240

Port Huron

Saint Clair County Library 0283
210 McMorran Boulevard
48060 (1876)
(313) 987-7323

Rochester

Oakland University 0293A
Kresge Library
48063 (1964)
(313) 377-2476

Seymour

Hoyt Public Library 0284
505 Jones Street
48605 (1990)
(517) 755-0904

Sault Ste. Marie

Lake Superior State College 0287B
Kenneth Shouldice Library
49783 (1982)
(906) 635-2403

Traverse City

Northwestern Michigan College 0245A
Mark Osterlin Library
1701 East Front Street
49684 (1964)
(616) 946-5650, ext. 542

University Center

Delta College Learning Resources Center 0286A
Mackinaw and Kuch Roads
48710 (1963)
(517) 686-9360

Warren

Warren Public Library 0291A
Arthur J. Miller Branch
4700 East Thirteenth Mile Road
48092 (1972)
(313) 751-5877

Wayne

Wayne Oakland Library Federation 0292A
33030 Van Born Road
48184 (1957)
(313) 326-8910, ext. 26

Ypsilanti

Eastern Michigan University Library 0278A
Documents Department
48197 (1965)
(313) 487-2280

Micronesia

Community College of Micronesia Library 0293B
P.O. Box 159, Kolonia
Ponape, E. Caroline Islands
Federated States of Micronesia
96941 (1982)

Minnesota

Bemidji

Bemidji State University 0306A
A. C. Clark Library
Documents Department
56601 (1965)
(218) 755-2955

Collegeville

Saint John's University 0302
Alcuin Library
56321 (1964)
(612) 363-2120

Cottage Grove

✓**Washington County Library-Park Grove** 0305A
7520-80th Street South
55016 (1983)
(612) 459-2040

Duluth

Duluth Public Library 0305
520 West Superior Street
55802 (1909)
(218) 723-3802

Edina

✓**Southdale-Hennepin Area Library** 0299A
Government Documents
7001 York Avenue South
55435 (1971)
(612) 830-4977

Mankato

Mankato State University Library 0299A
Box 19
Government Publications
56001 (1962)
(507) 389-6201

Minneapolis

✓**Anoka County Library** 0295A
707 Highway 10
55434 (1971)
(612) 784-1100

✓**Minneapolis Public Library** 0302
Government Documents
300 Nicollet Mall
55401 (1893)
(612) 372-6585

✓**University of Minnesota Law School Library** 0294A
Documents Department
229 Nineteenth Avenue South
55455 (1978)
(612) 376-2281

✓**University of Minnesota REGIONAL DEPOSITORY** 0295
Wilson Library
Government Publications
309 Nineteenth Avenue South
55455 (1907)
(612) 373-7813

Moorhead

Moorhead State University Library 0306
Documents Department
56560 (1956)
(218) 236-2922

✓Dakota County Lib SC4A

Morris

University of Minnesota, Morris, Rodney Briggs Library 0304A
Documents Department
56267 (1963)
(612) 589-2211, ext. 6174

Northfield

Carleton College Library 0296
Documents Department
56057 (1930)
(507) 663-4266

Saint Olaf College 0298
Rolvaag Memorial Library
55057 (1930)
(507) 663-3226

Saint Cloud

Saint Cloud State University, Learning Resources Center 0303A
Documents Department
56301 (1962)
(612) 255-2084, ext. 15

Saint Paul

✓**Hamline University School of Law Library** 0297A
1536 Hewitt Avenue
55104 (1975)
(612) 641-2349

✓**Minnesota Historical Society Library** 0301
690 Cedar Street
55101 (1867)
(612) 296-5997

✓**Minnesota State Law Library** 0294
117 University Avenue
55155 (unknown)
(612) 296-2775

✓**Saint Paul Public Library** 0297
Government Publications
90 West 4th Street
55102 (1914)
(612) 292-6178

✓**University of Minnesota Saint Paul Campus Library** 0301A
1984 Buford Avenue
55108 (1974)
(612) 373-0903

✓**William Mitchell College of Law Library** 0296A
871 Summit Avenue
55105 (1979)
(612) 227-9171, ext. 157

Saint Peter

Gustavus Adolphus College Library 0299
Government Documents
56082 (1941)
(507) 931-7569

Willmar

Crow River Regional Library 0304
410 West Fifth Street
56201 (1950)
(612) 235-3162

Winona

Winona State University Maxwell Library 0298A
Sanborn & Johnson Street
55987 (1969)
(507) 457-2924

Mississippi

Cleveland

Delta State University 0313A
W. B. Roberts Library
38733 (1975)
(601) 843-2483

Columbus

Mississippi University for Women 0313
John Clayton Fant Memorial Library
Station Box E
39701 (1929)
(601) 327-2813

Hattiesburg

University of Southern Mississippi 0318
Joseph A. Cook Memorial Library
Southern Station Box 5053
34901 (1935)
(601) 266-4252

Jackson

Jackson State University 0314
Henry Thomas Sampson Library
Station C
39217 (1968)
(601) 968-2123

Millsaps College 0310
Millsaps-Wilson Library
39210 (1963)
(601) 354-5205, ext. 249

Mississippi College 0314A
School of Law Library
151 East Griffith Street
39201 (1977)
(601) 944-1970

Mississippi Library Commission 0311
819 West Capitol Street
39203 (1947)
(601) 354-6383

Mississippi State Library 0307
P.O. Box 1040
New Capitol
39205 (unknown)
(601) 354-7113

Lorman

Alcorn State University Library 0308A
P.O. Box 589
39096 (1970)
(601) 877-3711, ext. 220

Mississippi State

Mississippi State University 0304
Mitchell Memorial Library
Documents Department
Box 5408
39762 (1907)
(601) 325-3060

University

University of Mississippi 0312
J. D. Williams Library
REGIONAL DEPOSITORY
Documents Department
38677 (1883)
(601) 232-5857

University of Mississippi 0308
Law Library
38677 (1967)
(601) 232-7361, ext. 316

Missouri

Cape Girardeau

Southeast Missouri State University 0334
Kent Library
63701 (1916)
(314) 651-2231

Columbia

University of Missouri at Columbia Library 0321
Government Documents
65201 (1962)
(314) 882-6733

Minnesota Department of Education

Capitol Square 550 Cedar Street Saint Paul Minnesota 55101 Phone (612) 296-2821

Office of Library Development and Services
440 Capitol Square Building

July 30, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Senate Hart Office Building SH-818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of the proposal that depository libraries in the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area participate in the pilot program for access to federal automated library databases. The area offers a unique combination of factors that make it an ideal location for participation.

The Minneapolis-St. Paul area contains several major public and academic libraries that are heavily used by information seekers. Among the twelve depository libraries are the University of Minnesota Library, the Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center, and the St. Paul Public Library. These three libraries are among the largest libraries in the state, and all are heavily used. The volume of use they receive means that the use of electronic access for government information would be extensive.

The high level of cooperation among all types of libraries in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area is unique. Structures are in place now which would allow the twelve depository libraries in the area to coordinate participation in the pilot program and to extend benefits of the program to other libraries as well.

Use of other electronic information sources in area libraries is extensive. Library staff are familiar with searching and using databases and could quickly incorporate electronic access to government information into library service programs.

Some two million persons reside in the area served by Minnesota's metropolitan libraries and could potentially benefit directly or indirectly from the pilot program. The area is the headquarters for a number of major corporations. As a center for technology, there is an eagerness to benefit from use of computer technology in accessing information.

Sincerely yours,

William G. Asp
Director

MONTANA COLLEGE OF MINERAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
BUTTE, MONTANA 59701
406/496-4101

Library

Senator Matthias,
JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING
U.S. CONGRESS
Hart Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator,

We thank you very much for the invitation to the hearings on electronic storage of information, and regret that distance does not permit librarians from Montana to testify, or request the privelige of testifying.

But there is no question that the storage of data in electronic form erodes citizens right to know what their government is doing. Also, because of the valuable technical material stored in this way, local scientists and engineers must often pay to get this information.

I have twice purchased government survey data banks for the research use of scholars and faculty in Colorado (at a bargain rate, it was true) and generally colleges are operating too close to margin of cost to afford much of this. Certainly graduate students and garage inventors are unable to afford it.

We are particularly interested in the WORLD GEOPHYSICAL DATA BANK, stored at the NOAA center in Boulder, Colorado, but can only get a few items from them free. Our geophysicists would benefit from direct access, terminal-by phone-to data bank without more than phone charges, and this has not been possible.

Many data banks are not even known to most librarians and libraries, or depository supervisors and this is a serious problem in giving the best service to our citizens, as outlined in our depository regulations.

Thanks for all the good work you have done for all of us in this country in this regard.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Morrissett

Elizabeth Morrissett,
Head Librarian.

THE MONTANA COLLEGE OF MINERAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IS A UNIT OF THE MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM. THE OTHER COMPONENT INSTITUTIONS OF WHICH ARE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA AT MISSOULA, MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT BOZEMAN, WESTERN MONTANA COLLEGE AT DILLON, EASTERN MONTANA COLLEGE AT BILLINGS, AND NORTHERN MONTANA COLLEGE AT HAVRE

MONTANA COLLEGE OF MINERAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BUTTE, MONTANA 59701
406/496-4101

Library

June 27, 1985

Senator Charles Mathias
Senate Office Building
U.S. CONGRESS
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Mathias,

Thanks so very much for your concern for electronic information. Depository libraries are very much hampered by the increasing use of electronic data bases for former paper annual reports, technical data information storage, etc.

It is particularly important that we look at access for citizens to research data on computers. Of course this is limited when military, but much important work is going onto digital form in so very many fields, and citizen access is important both for the citizen education, and also for correction to experts who sometimes need oversight (alas.)

Our library would be delighted to be the "small" pilot project to get information to the city of Butte and the state of Montana. We are enjoying fruits of the new patents depository which has been placed here in 1984, and which has served many local inventors, researchers and students.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Morrissett

Elizabeth Morrissett
Head Librarian.

New York State Health
~~Department Library~~
~~Wadsworth Center~~
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12201

July 22, 1985

Ms. Bernadine Abbott Hoduski, Chair
Joint Committee on Printing
U.S. Congress Senate
Hart Office Building 818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ms. Hoduski,

It was with great interest that I read the committee report on "Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries." As Chairperson of the New York State Interagency Information Group (NYSIIG), I heartily agree with your findings and support any recommendations that will provide access to Federal information electronically.

Our group is comprised of librarians and other public information officers representing various New York State government agencies. The need for Federal information on a state/local level is great and it is sometimes difficult to meet these needs in a timely and efficient manner. We are fortunate to have the New York State Library in close proximity, and they most certainly have the capability to access information electronically. I encourage you to further investigate the matter through a pilot program involving the depository libraries.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McNamara

Kathleen McNamara
Chairperson, NYSIIG

Senior Librarian
New York State Health
Department Library

KAM/ws

The New York Public Library
Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations

The Research Libraries

Fifth Avenue & 42nd Street
New York, New York 10018

July 11, 1985

Mr. Thomas Kleis
Staff Director, Joint Committee on Printing
United States Congress
Room S-151
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Kleis:

This letter is in response to the Joint Committee on Printing request for comments on whether government information in electronic format should be provided to federal depository libraries.

Mr. Ganly, Chief of the Economic and Public Affairs Division, and I strongly support the position that government information should be made available to the public free of charge through the depository library program irrespective of its format. Further we maintain that, since some government information becomes increasingly available only in electronic format, it is imperative that the public not be deprived of access to it, but that the electronic federal data bases be fully accessible for free use in depository libraries. We were glad to hear at the Public Forum in Washington last month that our conviction is shared by numerous librarians.

We agree that pilot projects are the best way to begin the inclusion of the federal data bases in the depository program. We are interested in participating in such a project. The Research Libraries administration is willing to pursue the possibility of this expanded service in connection with our depository obligations. Our interest at this point is in the full text data bases of the Federal Register and of the Code of Federal Regulations, which, we think, will provide improved service to our public. We are, however, aware that a number of problems of technological, staffing, and funding nature need to be resolved before a specific proposal for a pilot project can be formulated. More definite guidelines from the Joint Committee on Printing on requirements and support would be helpful to us as we proceed in assessing our technological capability for this new service and our ability to meet its cost.

Since cooperation on regional basis is important in the provision of this service to our readers I have contacted other depository libraries in the New York Metropolitan Region. The documents librarians I spoke to agree with us that providing access to government information in electronic format through the depository system is desirable. There is also agreement among us that our efforts to master this challenge should be coordinated. Our plans for a pilot project will, therefore, be fully discussed with the members of the local depository librarians group.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Joint Committee on Printing for inviting comments on this important aspect of library service to the public, and the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases and its chair, Ms. Hoduski, for the thorough study of this matter as reported in the Senate Print 98-260.

Sincerely yours,

Irene Itina
Assistant Chief and Head,
Documents Section
Economic & Public Affairs Division

II:rw

cc: Dr. Stam
Mr. Jay
Mr. Ganly
Ms. Hoduski

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
ALBANY, NY 12230

THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES
(518) 474-3840

June 25, 1985

Statement of the New York State Library for the

U.S. Congress Joint Committee on Printing

Public Forum on Provision of Electronic Federal Information to

Depository Libraries

June 26, 1985

Background: The New York State Library, created in 1818 to serve the government and people of New York, is a collection of 1.9 million volumes. It is the largest state library in the country and the only one eligible for membership in the Association of Research Libraries. The State Library has been a Federal depository library since the early nineteenth century (exact date unknown), and was designated a Regional Federal depository library in 1963. In 1983, the State Library published the New York State Plan for Federal Depository Library Service, a document which was developed by a Task Force representing the library and user community in the state. An Advisory Council on Federal Depository Library Service, which meets twice a year, monitors and evaluates Plan implementation.

Remarks on the Ad Hoc Committee Report: The New York State Library supports the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases, i.e., that the Federal government should provide access to Federal information in electronic form through the depository library system, and that the economic feasibility of this access be investigated through pilot projects. The depository library system is a proven means of implementing this country's policy of making government information available to the public. As more of this material becomes available electronically (and, in some cases, in no other way), use of the depository library system for distribution will guarantee the continued rights of citizens to free and open access to publicly funded information.

Interest in Pilot Projects: The New York State Library is interested in the concept of pilot projects for electronic access to government information through depository libraries, and would like to be kept informed of any proposals developed by GPO/JCP for which it might apply. The State Library also volunteers to assist GPO/JCP if they request help in designing projects.

Although we have not worked out details, several possibilities for New York State Library involvement come to mind. For information currently available electronically, one project might be to act as a test site to evaluate GPO-supplied direct access to ghe online files rather than purchase from different vendors.

For information not yet available in these formats, the State Library would especially welcome the chance to test access to: 1) full texts of patents online and 2) map information on a videodisk/microcomputer system.

Additional suggestions from other depository libraries in New York State include electronic access to military manuals and foreign trade statistics.

Additional Information: Although the New York State Library is aware that much has to be done before projects are designed and libraries selected, we would like to call attention to several factors which we think are relevant to consideration of the State Library as a project participant:

- Current online access. The New York State Library has access to 19 of the 20 titles identified on page 11 of the Ad Hoc Committee report as most useful to depository libraries. Equipment and space for online access are already in place. Staff are knowledgeable about both print and electronic Federal information. There is also expertise in the technical details of equipment installation and maintenance.

- Clientele. The New York State Library serves a large and diversified clientele of state government, researchers, and citizens of the state.

- Collections. In addition to its Regional Federal depository collection, the State Library is also strong in law, medicine, and technology. It is the officially designated State Law Library and State Medical Library. In addition, the Library is a NASA depository and a U.S. Patent depository library with access to the CASSIS system. The Library also purchases all NTIS SCRIM documents.

- Network affiliations. The New York State Library has participated in OCLC since 1973. Other network affiliations include the New York State Interlibrary Loan (NYSILL) Network and the Regional Medical Library Network.

- Experience in previous studies. The New York State Library has previous experience in assessing the impact of technology on use. The report "A Study of Impact of Technological Change in Library Service Facilities" by Ben-Ami Lipetz and Peter J. Paulson, issued in 1984, evaluates the impact of the introduction of subject access to the library's online catalog. At present the State Library is participating in a study of the use of the Dewey Classification schedules to assist online catalog searches.

  These projects have provided us with experience in project design and analysis which are an excellent preparation for participation in other projects evaluating the provision of online information.

Filed by Mary Redmond
Principal Librarian, Legislative and Governmental Services, New York State Library

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

July 23, 1985

Senator Charles Mathias Jr.
Room 818
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias,

Enclosed is a pilot project proposal for the consideration of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases. We feel this proposal highlights the major issues which should be studied in any project undertaken to evaluate the cost and benefits of distributing federal electronic information to depository libraries.

Whatever projects are undertaken, we wish to reiterate our strong desire to participate in this exciting experiment for the future of the depository program.

Sincerely,

Diane H. Smith

Diane H. Smith
Head, Documents/Maps Section

cc: R. Allen
J. Barrett
S. Forth
J. Neal

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY UNIVERSITY

With the advent of electronic information collection, storage and retrieval technologies, more and more government information activities will inevitably make use of electronic media. If depository libraries are to remain a viable source of that information for citizens throughout the country, it is important that libraries learn to use these technologies to the best advantage of the people whom they serve.

PILOT PROJECT PROPOSAL

GOAL: Using the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases that a pilot project be undertaken to study the economic feasibility of distributing government information in electronic formats, we would like to find out who, among government, commercial vendors, and not-for-profit establishments, can deliver that information at the least cost with the greatest benefits. It is expected that this project will also uncover the problems of the routine distribution and use and demonstrate that depository libraries of all kinds can use government information in electronic media.

WHO At least 24 libraries are involved in the testing: large academic, small to medium academic, large public, small to medium public, large academic serving as a resource center, and large public serving as a resource center.The number could be expanded by multiples of these basic groups; the larger the number of participating libraries, the more valid the data.

In order to retrieve data from depository libraries serving a variety of constituencies, we propose to include large and small, academic and public libraries in our project. Representation of both urban and rural libraries will be required. The participating libraries should be geographically distributed. The accompanying tables suggest a possible configuration. We would also encourage participating depository libraries to involve other appropriate parts of their organizations. In academic libraries this may be a computation center or a subject library; in public libraries this may be municipal computing facilities. The purpose is to be creative about where help is found and to involve a cross-section of the community.

WHAT The six data files to be tested are: Agricola, BLS Consumer Price Index, CASSIS, Census of Population and Housing Summary Tape Files, Federal Register, and USGS optical disks.

In keeping with the goal of this pilot project to study a variety of data bases, the project will include different types of data: bibliographic, textual, numeric; different types of access: online through government sources, online through commercial vendors, locally mounted; and different media: magnetic tapes, floppy disks, optical disks. The publications chosen to illustrate the data types are: Agricola (bibliographic), Federal Register (textual), Census of Population and Housing (numeric), BLS Consumer Price Index (numeric), CASSIS is chosen to demonstrate direct access, and digital cartographic data from USGS to demonstrate optical disk.

The publications were selected on the basis of how well they matched the service goals and patron needs of participating libraries. Also, all of the publications were rated in the top ten of the categories of publications identified by the Depository Library Survey, Part F, conducted by the Ad Hoc Committee. The selection of the USGS cartographic data was based on the subjective criteria of the needs and interests of the participating libraries. Since this technology is so new to the library community, it was not ranked in the Survey, but should be included in any study of access to electronically produced government information.

HOW Agricola, BLS CPI, a patent data base, and the Federal Register will be supplied through a commercial vendor to one set of libraries; Agricola, CASSIS, and the Federal Register will be supplied online directly by the federal agency to a matched set of libraries; BLS CPI will be supplied for local mounting to this same group of libraries. The Census will be supplied through the State Data Centers to one set of libraries and through magnetic tapes locally mounted to a matched set of libraries. USGS optical disks will probably require that optical disk players be supplied to the libraries during the test period.

We have tried to avoid adding burdens to the initiation of the project, e.g. requesting publications not yet available in electronic format or electronic files for which no easily available access software already exists. We would also like to avoid any unnecessary outlays for equipment. We prefer to provide existing databases on existing equipment and put our efforts into training users and gathering data.

Librarians are not now well-prepared to use non-bibliographic data bases. It is not that they are unwilling, but that they have had little exposure and little time to seek exposure. Care must be taken in designing the details of a pilot project to see that such things as software to make the data base "user friendly" and training packages are considered.

WHY To gather data comparing the costs and benefits of direct distribution from the government and distribution via commercial vendors.

The benefits to be evaluated include:

- -- the currency of the information coming directly from the government as compared to the same information coming through a commercial vendor;
- -- the ease of access to information from each source;
- -- the accuracy and fidelity of the vendor's database as compared to the government's;
- -- manipulability of databases from different sources;

The costs to be evaluated include:

- -- the costs to the government of supplying the database directly, whether online or through the distribution of tapes;
- -- the costs of paying a commercial vendor to distribute the data base online;
- -- the costs to the libraries in telecommunications;
- -- the costs for hardware and software, both to the government and to the participating libraries;
- -- the costs to the government and to libraries for staff training and time.

Participating libraries would have to keep detailed records each time they received, accessed and manipulated one of the data bases used in the test.

We suggest that the project be undertaken jointly under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Superintendent of Documents, as recommended in the Ad Hoc Committee report. A project of this magnitude should be directed from some central source with the authority to negotiate with agencies and commercial vendors for the supply of the data base and capable of monitoring the progress of the data collection. The major work of the project would be in designing the questionnaires and data sheets to be kept by participating libraries. This should be done with the input of a committee of depository librarians.

Carolyn Jamison
Diane Garner
The Pennsylvania State
University Libraries
18 July 1985

Academic Libraries	Urb-Lg.Lib. 1	Urb-Lg.Lib.2 Resource Ctr.	Urb-Lg.Lib.3	Urb-Lg.Lib.4 Resource Ctr	Sm.Lib.1 Urban	Sm. Lib.2 Urban
Commercial Vendor online	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.			Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	
Agency online or State Data Ctr.	Census	Census	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.		Agricola Patents Fed. Reg.
Local Mount	USGS	USGS	Census CPI	Census CPI	USGS	CPI

Notes:

The Census tapes are not tested in small libraries because they are not likely to have the computer capacity to deal with them.

Federal Register may have to be changed to a local mount if the tapes are not available online from the agency.

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Academic Libraries	Rur-Lg.Lib. 1	Rur-Lg.Lib.2 Resource Ctr.	Rur-Lg.Lib.3	Rur-Lg.Lib.4 Resource Ctr	Sm.Lib.1 Rural	Sm. Lib.2 Rural
Commercial Vendor online	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.			Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	
Agency online or State Data Ctr.	Census	Census	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.		Agricola Patents Fed. Reg.
Local Mount	USGS	USGS	Census CPI	Census CPI	USGS	CPI

Notes:

The Census tapes are not tested in small libraries because they are not likely to have the computer capacity to deal with them.

Federal Register may have to be changed to a local mount if the tapes are not available online from the agency.

Public Libraries	Urb-Lg.Lib. 1	Urb-Lg.Lib.2 Resource Ctr.	Urb-Lg.Lib.3	Urb-Lg.Lib.4 Resource Ctr	Sm.Lib.1 Urban	Sm. Lib.2 Urban
Commercial Vendor online	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.			Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	
Agency online or State Data Ctr.	Census	Census	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.		Agricola Patents Fed. Reg.
Local Mount	USGS	USGS	Census CPI	Census CPI	USGS	CPI

Notes:

The Census tapes are not tested in small libraries because they are not likely to have the computer capacity to deal with them.

Federal Register may have to be changed to a local mount if the tapes are not available online from the agency.

Public Libraries	Rur-Lg.Lib. 1	Rur-Lg.Lib.2 Resource Ctr.	Rur-Lg.Lib.3	Rur-Lg.Lib.4 Resource Ctr	Sm.Lib.1 Rural	Sm. Lib.2 Rural
Commercial Vendor online	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.			Agricola CPI Patents Federal Reg.	
Agency online or State Data Ctr.	Census	Census	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.	Agricola Patents Federal Reg.		Agricola Patents Fed. Reg.
Local Mount	USGS	USGS	Census CPI	Census CPI	USGS	CPI

Notes:

The Census tapes are not tested in small libraries because they are not likely to have the computer capacity to deal with them.

Federal Register may have to be changed to a local mount if the tapes are not available online from the agency.

RICE UNIVERSITY

P.O. BOX 1892
HOUSTON, TEXAS
77251-1892

THE FONDREN LIBRARY

June 25, 1985

Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
U. S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Fondren Library at Rice University would like to express its support for depository library access to Federal Government information in electronic form. Fondren completely agrees with the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases of the Joint Committee on Printing in its assessment that a pilot program is needed to practically test the cost-effectiveness of providing information electronically to libraries.

This library is in an especially appropriate position to make excellent use of electronic distribution of government information to the public because we have one of the largest user populations of any depository library in the South, since we are located in the heart of Houston, the fourth largest city in America. Our depository collection is particularly strong in legislative materials, rules and regulations, energy and technical reports and maps, and is supplemented by commercially produced collections of government publications in microform. As a Patent Depository Library we have been providing the public with access to electronic Federal information through the Patent and Trademark Office's Classification and Search Support Information System since April 1983.

We have a history of serving all sectors of the public. We are an active member of several library networks: Houston Area Research Libraries Consortium (HARLiC); the Consortium of the Association of Research Libraries (CARLA); and AMIGOS, which is made up of libraries in the Southwest using the nationwide library network, OCLC. All three networks promote cooperation between academic, public, and medical facilities, and special libraries. We have reciprocal loan agreements with nonprofit organizations and research libraries in Houston and the Southwest through our participation in these networks. We provide reference services through two divisions, the Division of Reader Services and the Division of Government Documents and Special Resources. We also provide research, reference, document

delivery, and interlibrary loan services to the corporate sector and to other research libraries through the Division of Community Services.

Database Selection

As part of a pilot project, Fondren is particularly interested in access to the bibliographic data base of the Department of Energy (DOE). We are ready to commit the significant resources of three of the four divisions of Fondren Library as well as a portion of the telecommunications cost to providing dial-up access to this database. We have sufficient staff not only to provide primary access to this electronic tool for over 12 hours daily, but also to adequately monitor usage by user type (public, local university, corporate, HARLiC and CARLA network users). We propose to test the electronic delivery format for the DOE data base because we are in the most energy-intensive economy in the U.S. With the frequent price shifts in the oil industry, new production technologies and alternative energy resource utilization are the most sought after information requirements of our patrons.

The Fondren government documents collection already contains DOE reports in hard copy and microfiche format. Access to the DOE data base in electronic form by means of a dial-up microcomputer terminal will facilitate and enhance use of that collection to the widest possible group. Computer searches of bibliographic data bases are done daily in all three public service divisions at Fondren and there are 10 librarians already conversant with the command languages and search strategies required to search the many publicly available commercial databases. This means it will take only minor training and scheduling to bring access to the public through this talented group of information specialists.

Potential User Groups

This pilot project is a unique opportunity for collaboration between three sectors of the Houston area community that are critical to the continuing economic health of this area and thus are very important to Rice University. Houston's growth has been largely due to the excellent collaboration between academic expertise, corporate

applications, and governmental needs, as is exemplified by the Johnson Space Center. Providing access to the most current technical reports in the energy fields is of immediate interest to 60 percent of the corporate clients who already use Fondren information services. These oil and gas exploration, research, and energy-related service companies have the most direct uses for DOE technical information. However, engineers, contractors, equipment suppliers, developers, and small businessmen developing new products to diversify the Houston economy also need the technical information filed in DOE technical reports. The same is true of the research community represented by Rice University, the University of Houston, and other members of HARLiC. Access to energy information is invaluable to the research planning and educational programs of these schools, all of which contribute to the evolution of technical innovation themselves. Technical information is also an asset to the key businesses in Houston that belong to the Houston Chamber of Commerce and other small business support organizations.

Public Education

In cooperation with the Joint Committee on Printing, Fondren is ready to promote the electronic delivery of information through publicity to the university community, the corporate sector, and to the other HARLiC and CARLA network libraries. The combination of publicity, user education at the public service desks, and immediate access to the database should provide enough usage to give a fair test of the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of the system. Parallel analysis of usage and topics searched could further indicate the breadth of public interest and justify possible expansion programs for the Joint Committee.

Reporting of Results

Adequate evaluation of such a pilot program requires analysis and reporting of results, both in-progress and at the conclusion of the project. This is subject to the Joint Committee's specifications, but Fondren can provide baseline statistics of usage of the DOE reports for the fiscal year and a final report of the amount of electronic and hard-copy usage during the pilot program. Interim reports may be provided if needed to discuss promotional efforts and short-term increases of usage.

Summary

Through concerted public education activities, the assistance of excellent information professionals to help users make the best use of materials located by DOE searches, and the network of current users who can be directly contacted to promote usage, Fondren Library can provide a high quality pilot test program for the evaluation of the Electronic Federal Information Project. We are ready to develop a more detailed proposal to your requirements and coordinate a project with the Joint Committee on Printing.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kile

Barbara Kile, Director
Division of Government Publication and Special Resources

Social Law Library
1200 Court House
Boston, Mass. 02108

EDGAR J. BELLEFONTAINE
LIBRARIAN

TELEPHONE
(617) 742-0956

June 18, 1985

Hon. Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., Chairman
Congress of the United States
Joint Committee on Printing
818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

Thank you for your letter of May 17th. In response to your invitation, I am happy to submit the following statement concerning the pilot project to provide electronic access to federal government publications to the depository libraries.

The Committee is to be congratulated for addressing this pressing question. The federal publications and databases presently under consideration by the Committee would provide legal information, which is, in essence, information about the activities of the government itself which is not presently available anywhere in electronic format.

Print is not the substantial equivalent of on-line electronic access. If it were, we would not be seeing the explosive growth of electronic databases that we are now seeing. Given the great mass of official federal government laws and regulations, on-line access is the only practical means of finding essential information hidden in a mountain of data. Even for print materials where detailed indexing is available, on-line searching allows more powerful as well as faster access. For materials where indexing is less than adequate, the advantage of on-line access is even greater.

Better availability of federal materials is in the best interest of the government. Much of the decision-making of the federal courts and administrative agencies is done in the context of adversarial proceedings. In such proceedings the tribunals rely heavily upon the parties to adequately present the legal issues involved supported by appropriate citations. Therefore, if federal legal information is not freely and cheaply available, it may not be effectively utilized, and the efficiency of the government's own

operations will be impaired. Resulting failures of justice will fall most heavily upon less well-off litigants before federal agencies and courts who will not be able to pay for expensive manual searches.

It would indeed be a tragedy if, in the future, only printed versions of federal documents were readily available to the public. It would be an ironic situation indeed if information about government activities and legal rulings were available to all, but effective access to that information were restricted to those who could afford to pay the fees of electronic information vendors.

It should also be noted that with modern type-setting technology, the reducing of documents to machine-readable form is a necessary first step to the printing of most documents. In fact, the entire Westlaw computer-assisted legal research system grew out of modern printing procedures. The West Publishing Company realized that in publishing its law books, it was also creating an electronically accessible database. It would therefore seem that the greater part of the expense of providing federal information on-line, that is to say the expense of putting the records into machine-readable form, has probably already been met. What remains is the task of providing widespread public access to these machine-readable records.

It would appear that the Social Law Library, which is a federal depository library, would be a logical site for the provision of such on-line access in the Boston area. The Social Law Library is dues-supported, member-managed and the principal reference library of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, and indeed, of all the other state courts located in Boston. The Library also serves the several federal courts sitting in the state.

Moreover, since 1804 the Library has been the major legal resource for the Boston area bar. The 1842 statute that provided for the creation of public county law libraries, the predecessors of the present Trial Court Libraries, specifically exempted Suffolk County (which includes Boston) in recognition of the Social Law Library's longstanding fulfillment of this role in the county. In addition, the Library provides services to the First Circuit Court of Appeals Library, local law firm libraries, all law school libraries in New England, and, through the Massachusetts Trial Court Libraries, the general public.

The Library's extensive network of interlibrary loan services would insure that specific requests for information from these federal databases would be promptly provided to users who are far removed from the Boston area. The location of the Social Law Library in downtown Boston would

give direct access to these databases to the greatest number of potential users. Such high volume use would also serve to provide a fair test of the information delivery capabilities of the system.

The Library has sufficient experienced staff fully capable of providing in-depth user assistance in accessing these databases. At the same time, the Library's copy center can provide any necessary hard copy. This dual capability to find and disseminate legal information is unique to the Social Law Library in the New England area.

I wish to thank the Joint Committee on Printing for this opportunity to present this statement. I am confident that the Committee will find a way to make these vital federal records available in electronic format for those who are expected to govern their conduct and business in accordance with the commands of these materials.

Respectfully submitted,

Edgar J. Bellefontaine
Librarian

June 17, 1985

The Honorable Charles Mathias, Jr., Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
387 Russell Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

This letter is being addressed to you to ask for your support for a pilot program in which federal depository libraries will receive Federal information in electronic form.

As you well know, the federal depository library program was established by Congress to provide Federal government information to the public through libraries. Since more and more Federal information is being produced and accessed through electronic means, depository libraries and their users have become anxious to receive some information in electronic format.

In view of the public forum to be held on Wednesday, June 26, 1985, at 2:00 p.m., your support for keeping the depository library program current with the new information technology is very important.

We of the information community will greatly appreciate your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jane F. Clark

Jane F. Clark, Director
Information Services
Southern States Energy Board
2300 Peachford Rd.
Suite 1230
Atlanta, GA 30338

SPARTANBURG COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

June 7, 1985

Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Committee Members:

I have received your May 31, 1985 news release regarding the announcement of a public forum on whether government publications and electronic format should be provided to federal depository libraries. Although I will be unable to attend, I would like to submit my written comments.

When Title 44 of the United States Code was first written, I am sure its authors had in mind the duty and responsibility of the Federal Government to make its published information available to the citizens of the United States. Obviously, these authors could not foresee the technological changes that were to take place many years later.

Although Title 44 does say "printed matter," at that time that was the only format in which government information was disemminated.

I believe it to be too narrow in interpretation to assume that printed matter meant printed matter. I am sure the intent of the framers of this law was to make sure that government information is available to all the people. Today this would include material in electronic format.

On March 15, 1985, the Office of Management and Budget published a proposed federal information policy in the Federal Register. They concluded that collection and disemmination of information in electronic format should be treated as information in other formats.

I th'nk the work of a recent ad hoc committee, which involved persons from the Depository Library community is excellent in most all respects. Libraries, both public and academic, are already beginning to use extensively electronic data bases. It should be a relatively simple matter to make federal information in electronic format available as well.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Bruce
Director

DLB/nw

333 S. PINE STREET, P.O. BOX 2409, SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA 29304-2409, (803) 596-3507

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY

LORENZO DE ZAVALA STATE ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY BUILDING
BOX 12927, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

Texas State Library
and Archives Commission

Dorman H. Winfrey
Director and Librarian

July 24, 1985

Tom Kleis
Joint Committee on Printing
SH-818 Hart Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Kleis:

As the Texas State Library is the regional depository for Region II of Texas in the federal documents depository library system, I am writing in support of the University of Houston Libraries' proposal for a pilot project for depository library access to federal government publications in electronic format submitted on June 24, 1985.

It has become urgently apparent that more and more data, previously distributed to depository libraries in either paper or microfiche format, are now available only in electronic format. We can anticipate that this will continue to be the preferred format of the future, as both economics and time assume higher priorities in the production and accessibility of information. All libraries, but especially those which handle government publications and respond to requests for government information, feel that without access to electronic data in libraries, the public will be denied access to much of the information our government collects.

It is of great importance that libraries be given an opportunity to experiment with ways of assuring this free public access. It should not be left entirely to the private sector.

The Texas State Library is interested particularly in the development of regional access to this data, and could support a project of this kind.

I urge the Committee to give favorable consideration to the University of Houston Libraries' proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Dorman Winfrey

Dr. Dorman Winfrey
Director and Librarian

2:UofH

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL
1515 EAST FIRST STREET
(602) 626-3565

June 17, 1985

Senator Charles McMathis
Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
U.S. Congress
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

I have read the news release of May 31, 1985 in which the Joint Committee on Printing has called for a public meeting on the subject of electronic federal information to depository libraries.

Since I shall not be able to attend that meeting, I thought that you might be interested in the enclosed copy. It is an editorial which will appear in GOVERNMENT INFORMATION QUARTERLY (1985, issue 3). The issue will appear in print this summer and it pertains to the JCP report on the provision of federal government publications in electronic format to depository libraries.

Sincerely,

Peter Hernon
Professor

DISCUSSION FORUM:

"PROVISION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES"

In May 1983, the Joint Committee on Printing, U.S. Congress, appointed the Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases and charged it with determining:

- what and how much Federal Government information is in electronic format?
- if depository libraries have the ability to assess the new formats?
- what are the costs and benefits of providing information in electronic format?

In addition,

> The Committee was ... asked to identify major policy areas which should be addressed in order to meet the intent of pertinent provisions of title 44, United States Code, to make Government information publicly available to citizens at no chargethrough the depository library system. (1)

The Committee's deliberations resulted in a committee print (S. Print 98-260) which was published in December 1984. (2)

This report of the Committee is one of the most important official publications regarding the depository library program in recent years. It reflects the thinking of an influential group of individuals, associations, groups, and federal agencies about the availability of public information in an electronic format and a perceived role for GPO depository libraries. Undoubtedly, various individuals and groups will try to use the report as a blueprint for change -- the electronic retrieval and dissemination of public information through the depository library network.

An underlying theme of the report is that less public information is being disseminated in traditional formats, such as paper copy and microform, than in electronic format. If the public is to gain access to electronic information, then depository libraries must serve as the safety net. This line of reasoning suggests a number of policy issues and discussion opportunities, only three of which will be identified here. First, the definition of a government publication as advanced in Title 44 is outdated and open to interpretation. While the JCP and GPO argue that section 1901 does pertain to electronic printing, the Office of Management and Budget and other executive agencies question the assertion. The policy issue relates to the separation of powers, i.e., the JCP not wanting to see a further erosion of its power, and OMB becoming the predominant player in federal information policy.

Second, current decision making relating to depository distribution of federal electronic data files will center on issues of economy in government. Due to the costs involved, the government cannot make all of its machine-readable data files available for depository distribution. Other stakeholders in the information sector will play a central role in the availability of electronic information. The GPO has long maintained that the definition of government publication in Title 44 prevented depository distribution of machine-readable files. Clearly, prior to a policy shift, that definition must be amended. Undoubtedly, executive agencies and others will oppose expanded authority for the GPO or JCP in the distribution of electronic

data files.

And, finally, government officials often naively assume that a safety net for assessing public information is in place and that it protects the interests of all segments of society. Both the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act are regarded as part of that safety net; however, these acts only apply to certain types of public information. It may be that many government officials see libraries as the most inexpensive safety net to ensure the availability of increasing amounts of public information in a machine-readable form. A question, therefore, becomes "To what extent do depository libraries provide effective access to public information?"

The report obviously represents a forum by which the Committee can present its findings and recommendations. It is also a political document and a state of the art assessment on the availability of public information in an electronic format. However, a weakness to the report is its failure to subject the JCP's survey of depository libraries to checks for data reliability and validity.

Federal information policy, especially that focusing on electronic information and the depository library program, has a small research base. Ironically, the report fails to list the relevant research and development studies in its bibliography. The assumption is probably that this literature has little direct relevance to the issues in hand. Whatever the reason(s) this is a curious omission.

51-880 O—85——6

Most interesting are the assumptions upon which the report is based, and the conclusions and recommendations made. Previous research has found that depository collections and staff, at this time, make limited use of technology -- OCLC, online database searching, the development of management information systems, the servicing of numeric databases, the inclusion of government publications in online catalogs, etc. (3,4,5) Therefore, since the JCP's survey of depository libraries examines the libraries' overall current or planned use of technology, the data analysis inflates the immediate direct relevance of technology to depository collections and services. The assumptions that documents staff and collections directly and presently benefit from the "wide array of computer equipment already in place in depository libraries" and that documents librarians "regularly make use of time-sharing services for searching data bases" are questionable. (6)

The report is a part of the "add-on" approach to documents librarianship, which calls for adding new libraries to the program, making more printed publications available for depository distribution, expanding the nonprint resources available for item selection, etc. At some point, there must be a reversal of this approach or at least evaluation of the depository program and a determination of whether "bigger is indeed better." Does having larger collections better enable the program and the GPO to meet stated objectives? Does the program have valid goals and objectives? Can increased public access be equated with having a certain number of libraries in the depository program?

The report recommends the initiation of pilot projects exploring the effectiveness and efficiency of depository libraries in providing public information in electronic form. While this suggestion is reasonable, a sound research plan should be established prior to implementation. The purpose would be to set formal goals and objectives for the pilot projects, decide how the projects would be evaluated, and determine appropriate research designs and methods of statistical analysis.

Unless this is done, the proposed pilot projects may produce findings similar to those of 1975 and 1976, when the JCP/GPO tested the micropublishing of the Code of Federal Regulations. The project

> was based on a small sample of test libraries selected by the GPO. Many aspects of the project were not handled very well -- the timing was poorly planned, there was very little time afforded the libraries for creating a reasonable test environment, and not all libraries used the CFR under documented conditions. (7)

Furthermore, the CFR did not receive extensive use, by librarians and researchers, in all the libraries. Nonetheless, the GPO declared the project successful and in July 1976 requested approval from the JCP to start microfiche distribution to depository libraries.

The value of the report may be less its conclusions and recommendations than a general reminder to depository personnel

> to apply technology for increased access to government documents, if documents librarianship is to rise above the endless daily routines, escape from preconceived assumptions related to traditional library/information services and the depository library system, and set priorities concerning how the depository collection can best utilize information handling technologies to benefit both the library and the user. Once the priorities are determined, depository librarians can then initiate a

> program to implement such technologies for increased access and organization, and increase overall dissemination of government information (8).

The field of government publications proceeds much as it did in the past; there is little planning and evaluation, minimal use of technology, and minimal integration and mainstreaming of documents with other information services and collections. In addition, collections rather than services are emphasized. If the report, with its rich information content (especially the summaries of speaker presentations in Appendix 2), leads to change, its shortcomings can be overlooked and the library profession will benefit. More than ever, documents librarianship must set a research agenda for the future and see that quality research is funded and relates to decision making and public policy issues.

Peter Hernon
Editor

REFERENCES

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2. Ibid.

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6. Congress, Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries, p. 3.

7. Nancy M. Cline. "A Librarian's Perspective of the GPO and Micropublishing," Microform Review, 8 (Winter 1979): 23-24.

8. Hernon and McClure, Public Access to Government Information, p. 120.

51-880 O - 85 - 7

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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DAVID PIERPONT GARDNER
President

WILLIAM B. FRAZER
Senior Vice President—
Academic Affairs

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

June 21, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
SH-818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

Because I cannot attend the public meeting on Electronic Federal Information to Depository Libraries scheduled for June 26, 1985, I am writing you at this time to express the support of the University of California for the efforts of the Joint Committee on Printing to develop policies concerning the provision of government publications in electronic format to Federal depository libraries. We generally concur in the finding of the Joint Committee's *ad hoc* Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases (as reported in Committee Print S. Prt. 98-260, *Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic* Format to Depository Libraries), and we agree with the necessity for pilot projects to test the feasability of the proposals.

The University of California is also interested in taking part in pilot programs in this area. We have both the resources and commitment to implement important pilot programs at this time. The University of California library system, taken as a whole, is one of the largest libraries in the nation. Systemwide, the University had holdings in June, 1984, of 20,683,967 bound volumes and serials, plus 2,468,645 government documents in eight Federal depository libraries and other library units. In addition, the University takes an active role in providing access to Federal information outside the depository system, including comprehensive census data and energy information (the latter through the University's management of the Lawrence Laboratories).

In the area of access to information in electronic format, the UC libraries also have much to offer. Three campus library systems (at Berkeley, Los Angeles and San Diego) now have integrated library information systems that could in principle be used to deliver machine-readable information to users of their depository libraries. In addition, the Division of Library Automation in the Office of the President operates a library computer-communications system, the MELVYL (TM) service, which delivers library databases to the entire nine-campus system. Finally, our Library Studies and Research Division, working with private vendors, libraries, and Federal agencies, has taken an active role in encouraging the development and evaluation of systems using

optical digital disks to store, distribute and display information produced by the Federal government, and sponsored a seminar on this topic in January, 1985.

In connection with these library automation capabilities, we would like to draw your attention to the fact that depository libraries are often part of larger library networks. Some of these larger entities are already developing their own methods of processing electronic information for users. Where such systems exist, Federal data could be delivered to users at any location served by the system, not only within the confines of the depository library unit. At the Berkeley campus, for example, the GLADIS automated support system could conceivably provide access anywhere on the campus. The University-wide MELVYL service could make such information available for use throughout the University of California.

We raise this technical issue partly to encourage the Joint Committee to include experiments with such "local systems" in the pilot program, and partly to point out that no single solution is likely to satisfy the needs of all depository libraries and their users. In fact, no single solution is likely to withstand the tests of rapid change in technology or the rapid restructuring of the nation's communications systems. Standards will play a critical role in this area, by assuring that Federal data can be distributed and displayed using multiple approaches. We encourage the Joint Committee to foster the development of suitable standards for the encoding and formatting of Federal data, and for the characteristics of computer software that will be needed to access, display and use the information. At the same time, we urge the Joint Committee on Printing to develop standards which are as flexible as possible, in order to account for technological changes and to allow libraries to adapt the information to their own needs and capabilities.

We appreciate this opportunity to comment on this topic, and look forward to receiving information about opportunities to participate in pilot programs at the University of California.

Yours truly,

Gary S. Lawrence
Director
Library Studies and Research Division

cc: Bernadine Abbott Hoduski, Professional Staff Member for Library and Distribution Services, Joint Committee on Printing

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

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THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92093

June 18, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
United States Congress
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

The announcement of the public meeting on electronic federal information to depository libraries has sparked a great deal of interest here. Although no one from our staff will be able to attend the June 26 meeting, we'd like to express our support for the concept and for moving ahead with pilot projects. We would also be interested in participating in a pilot project although we have not prepared a specific proposal at this time.

One need which is particularly acute in depository libraries--especially for those of us in the west--is access to very timely information in such areas as status of legislation, text of legislation and regulation, or statistical releases. Although we can recognize that provision of electronic access to certain classes of materials might be extremely controversial from the standpoint of some interests, we would nevertheless like to express our hope that there will be an opportunity to test at least one of these areas of high interest during the pilot program.

We look forward to progress and would appreciate receiving news of further developments.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis S. Mirsky

PSM:cp

Phyllis S. Mirsky
Acting University Librarian

cc: Ms. Bernadine A. Hoduski
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Depository Library
Access to Federal Automated Data Bases

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER
University Libraries
Office of the Director

July 24, 1985

Senator Charles Mathias, Jr.
Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
Room 818
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

The University of Colorado Libraries are very supportive of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Provision of Government Information in Electronic Form to Depository Libraries. Government information already substantially supports the research and educational missions of the University. Provision in electronic format would greatly enhance the usefulness, accessibility, and timeliness of this information.

The Government Publications Library of the University of Colorado is interested in serving as a test site for a pilot project as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee. We realize that the selection of the pilot project participants will depend on a number of variables yet to be determined. It should be pointed out that our Government Publications Library has in the past successfully participated in pilot projects sponsored by federal agencies involving the dissemination of government information. Most notable are the National Science Foundation's Regional Technical Report Center Program in the early sixties and the testing and evaluation of the Government Printing Office's microfiche edition of the Publication Reference File.

I encourage the Joint Committee on Printing both to continue working towards making government information in electronic format available to depository libraries and to give serious consideration to using the libraries of the University of Colorado, Boulder, as a test site.

Sincerely yours,

Clyde C. Walton
Director of Libraries

CCW/EFF/jrl

cc: Senator William Armstrong
Senator Gary Hart
Congressman Tim Wirth

Norlin Library N210C • Campus Box 184 • Boulder, Colorado 80309 • (303) 492-7511

University of Georgia Libraries
1785-1985 Athens, Georgia 30602

July 29, 1985

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Room 818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

This letter is to inform you that the University of Georgia Library, a regional GPO Depository, would like to participate in the pilot project to disseminate selected government information in electronic form. We have not yet developed a formal proposal in large part because we do not have sufficient information about the pilot project to do so. When that information is available we would be pleased to submit a formal plan.

The University of Georgia has a long history as a pioneer in the area of computing. Among our efforts are early work with batch bibliographic data base searching funded by the National Science Foundation, the installation of a CDC super-computer and the adding of a second super-computer in the near future. There is little doubt that both the hardware and the expertise exist on this campus to support a pilot project of the type envisioned.

The University of Georgia Library also has a strong commitment to computing. The library has a locally developed, integrated, automated system that resides on a dedicated computer. This means that the library has both the automated system and the programming staff needed to support the provision of government information in electronic form.

The dissemination of U.S. government information is vital to an informed citizenry. The University of Georgia Library sees the provision of U.S. government information to the University community and to the citizens of the State of Georgia as one of its important roles and will do what it can to provide that information regardless of format.

Sincerely,

David F. Bishop
Director of Libraries

DFB/mw

cc: Congressman D. Douglas Barnard, Jr.
Senator Mack Mattingly
Senator Sam Nunn

An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Institution

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY LIBRARIES
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506

June 18, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chair, Joint Committee on Printing
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

Although I am unable to attend the public meeting on June 26, 1985, in Washington, D.C., I would like to make a few comments on your committee's proposal to fund pilot projects involving federal information in electronic format.

First of all, the University of Kentucky Libraries would like to be considered for a pilot project in the area of providing public service, promotional activities, etc. for an electronic information file, either online or on disk/tape. We could provide access to either format. I have included those pages from the Ad Hoc committee's questionnaire which describe our existing hardware capabilities.

We would be particularly interested in electronic files related to energy, business, agriculture or international affairs. We would also have a strong interest in a pilot project involving video or optical discs, although we do not currently have any of the necessary equipment for handling those formats. The Smithsonian Institution's project involving aviation photographs is a good example of a videodisc project (see attached brochure). We would also be interested in providing access to some of the computer mapping now being done by the U.S. Geological Survey. I hope you will give us serious consideration when deciding upon your pilot projects.

Secondly, I would like to draw a parallel between the efforts in the mid-1970's to bring microfiche into the depository library system with the current discussion regarding electronic information. At that time, we all debated whether this new format constituted a government publication; whether GPO could produce, manage and distribute it; what standards would have to be developed; whether depositories could store and service the new format; and whether the public would accept and use the same information offered in a new medium. Working together, we managed to answer all of the above questions and come to a reasonable and successful compromise, which has, indeed, turned out to be in the best interest of the U.S. citizen and the depository library system. Without microfiche, much vital information would have disappeared from public access and many depositories would have been out of space or out of the depository program long ago.

I feel that the current debate over access to electronic information is remarkably similar, and I hope it comes to the same happy resolution. I feel very strongly that these electronic files are government publications, that it makes good sense to make them available in their original form (electronically) rather than convert them to paper or fiche for distribution; that, unlike microfiche, the public's acceptance of this new format will be immediate; and that standards can be developed or methods of distribution devised to overcome compatibility problems. I also think that JCP and its Ad Hoc Committee have hit upon the major point of difficulty: the capability of depositories to handle electronic information and how much it

will cost someone for them to do so. I think the pilot projects will go a long way toward answering these two questions.

However, I would also suggest that JCP consider asking the Ad Hoc Committee for additional statistical information on the actual brands of hardware which are available in the depository community (this data was collected on their questionnaire), as well as several case studies of existing electronic information dissemination systems now operated by U.S. government agencies, e.g., CASSIS (Patent Office), ERIC (Department of Education) and State Data Centers (Census Bureau). These systems could be projected for a universe of 1400 locations or less, and several models or scenarios suggested for each system. Such information based on existing networks would provide a good comparison for the results of your pilot projects.

I am sorry that I could not attend the public forum, but money is very tight in Kentucky, particularly at the end of the fiscal year (June 30). I hope you will add my remarks to the record of the meeting, and I look forward to hearing more about the pilot project program and our participation in it.

Sincerely,

Sandra McAninch

Sandra McAninch, Head
Government Publications/
Maps Department

Encl. (2)

xc: Paul Willis, Director, UK Libraries
Michael Lach, Assistant Director for Public Services, UK Libraries

5. TERMINAL(S)

1. Does your library have a terminal(s) to access IN-HOUSE (institutional) or OUT-OF-HOUSE (non-institutional) data bases for research, cataloging, etc? Yes X No ___

2. If yes, please check or fill in information as required.

TERMINALS

TERMINAL IDENTIFICATION			WHICH COMPUTERS ACCESSED?			
			IN-HOUSE			OUT-OF-HOUSE
Make	Model	Qty.	Main	Mini	Micro	
1. TI	820	2	X	X		X
2. TI	745	2	X	X		X
3. OCLC	100	5		X		X
4. OCLC	105	9		X		X
5. OCLC	110	1		X		X
6. Dewriter	II	2	X			X
7. Televideo	910	23	X			X
8. Lear-Siegler	80M23(?)	28		X		
9. Lear-Siegler	80M2	1		X		X

G. COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND FORMATS

1. MAINFRAME

Make	Model	Operating System	Memory Capacity	LOCATION Parent Inst.	Library Other *	Gov't Doc. Department
IBM	3083	MVT & CMS	16 meg.	X		

2. MINICOMPUTER

Make	Model	Operating System	Memory Capacity	LOCATION Parent Inst.	Library Other *	Gov't Doc. Department
Data General	MV 10000	MEIS	2 megab.	X		
Hew.-Pack	3000	MPEIV	2 megab.		X	

3. MICROCOMPUTER

Make	Model	Operating System	Memory Capacity	LOCATION Parent Inst.	Library Other *	Gov't Doc. Department
IBM	PC	DOS1.1	225K		X	
CPC	110	CPM2.2	64K		X	
Hew.-Pack	85	cartridge	16E		X	
TRS80	12	DOS4.2	64K		X	

4. FORMAT

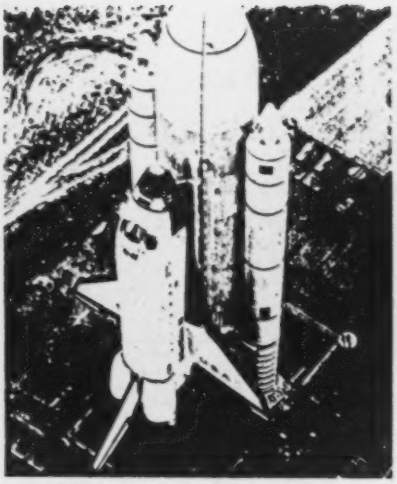
Would you prefer government documents delivered in a format other than paper and microfiche? Yes X No ___ (please check)

On-line X Floppy Disc ___ Hard Disc ___

Magnetic Tape ___ Optical Disc X Video Disc X

Other ___

*Area other than Government Documents Department.



The Museum's videodisc players, printers and videodiscs are available for visiting researchers in the Museum's third floor library, open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. Those interested in visiting the library must sign in at the information desk on the first floor of the Museum.

VIDEODISC

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C.

For more information, contact:
Mr. Pete Suthard, Records Management Division
National Air and Space Museum
Washington, D.C. 20560
(202) 357-3133

To purchase copies of the videodiscs, send a check or money order for $35, plus $1.50 handling charge (total $36.50) to Smithsonian Institution Press, P.O. Box 1579, Washington, D.C. 20013.

Begun in 1980, the National Air and Space Museum's videodisc project is providing scholars, educators and researchers access to the Museum's vast collection of archival aerospace photographs. Ten videodiscs are currently planned containing black and white and color photographs of the craft, people and artifacts associated with the history of aviation and space flight. To date, nearly one-third of the Museum's collection of one million photos is available on videodisc.

HOW IT WORKS

The components of a basic videodisc system are simple: a television monitor, a laser videodisc player and a videodisc.

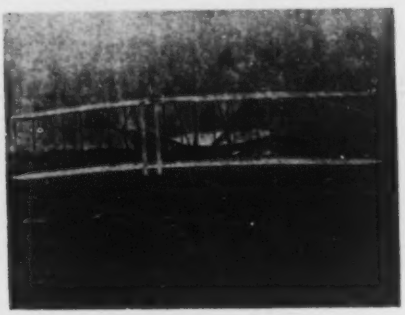
NASM's laser read videodisc is an analog presentation. The 12-inch diameter disc with 525 lines per image rotates at 1800 rpm in accordance with the National Television System Committee (NTSC) standard. The disc can be played on all laser videodisc players.

Hard copy reproductions of the video image can be made in a few seconds with a printer. If required, videodisc users can order duplicate glossy prints of their selected photos through the Smithsonian's Office of Printing and Photographic Services.

BENEFITS

NASM's videodisc system reduces wear and tear on fragile photo and document collections because, once recorded, the originals can remain safely in their files. Also, videodiscs store an incredible amount of data at an extremely low cost. A single disc, for example, can store the equivalent of 33 bulky file cabinets or 675 eighty-slide carousel trays.

The disc, resembling a silver phonograph record, is virtually indestructible. Its plastic coating protects it from dust, dirt and fingerprints. Because the disc is "played" by a laser rather than a stylus, it has a very long life—even after hundreds of hours of play. The information remains secure from alteration and accidental scrambling or erasure.



One of the most valuable features is its versatility. Users can run 30 frames, or photos, per second, or they can hold one frame for as long as they like. They can go forward, backward, stop, scan—all in a matter of seconds.

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

Archival Videodisc 1: The Museum's first disc, completed in August 1983, contains 100,000 photographs of the most-often-requested photos of aircraft, both U.S. and foreign, in alphabetical order by manufacturer.

Archival Videodisc 2: Produced in May 1984, this disc includes 100,000 images of major air and space personalities. Besides the biographical photos, the videodisc includes additional aircraft not covered in the first disc, balloons, airships, commercial airlines, air meets, trophies, military aviation, aeronautical communications and equipment, aerospace museums, philatelic covers and models.

Archival Videodisc 3: The U.S. Air Force World War II and pre-1940 still photo collection is the subject of the third disc (available the end of 1984).

Each disc is accompanied by a table of contents listing the subject headings.

Cost per disc: $35.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST
University Library
Amherst, MA 01003
DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

July 30, 1985

Ms. Bernadine Hoduski
Joint Committee on Printing
Room S-151 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ms. Hoduski:

This letter is to express the interest of the University of Massachusetts Library in participating the "pilot Project" phase of the Joint Committee on Printing's investigation of the distribution of government information in electronic form.

As I indicated in our telephone conversation of July 23rd, we are interested but can make no commitment without knowing more about the kind of information that will be offered to depositories; the formats to be distributed; possible funding by the JCP; and, potential impact on the University Library and the University.

As plans progress, I hope that you will keep us informed of the Joint Committee's activities in this area so that we can make a proposal for your consideration in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

W R Thompson

William R. Thompson
Head of Documents

cc: Representative Silvio O. Conte
Richard Talbot, Director of Libraries

The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109

July 31, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
United States Senate
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Room 818
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

The University of Michigan wishes to express its interest in submitting a pilot program proposal for the provision of government information in electronic form. The University of Michigan provides a unique setting for a pilot program in that two significant resources are located on campus. The University Library, which celebrated its 100th year as a federal depository collection in 1983-84, has extensive experience in providing access to government information and responding to inquiries from campus and local communities. The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) has served social scientists from around the world for over twenty years by providing: a) a dissemination service for machine-readable social science data; b) training facilities in quantitative social analysis; and c) resources for facilitating the use of advanced computer technology. The ICPSR provides facilities and services to an international community of scholars at over 300 member universities and colleges.

Michigan's proposal for a pilot program would join the forces of the University Library and ICPSR. Our purpose would be two-fold: 1) to identify selected government data available in electronic form, assessing mechanisms for providing access and assistance with these data, and 2) to explore options which might exploit ICPSR's established facilities for distribution of government data, including its nationwide network for remote access to such data. This latter objective will be feasible if resources are available to support this experimentation and to supplement resources that could be made available by the University Library and ICPSR.

Factors to consider in identifying appropriate data for this pilot program would include the availability of software to assist users in handling the data, the size of the database, the availability of current data of research interest to the local community, and the potential appropriateness of the data to the concerns of the membership of ICPSR. Examples of possible databases which might be considered include: the Census Bureau's CENDATA, the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment, Hours, and Earnings, BLS's Consumer Index, LEGIS, and full text Congressional Record.

A pilot program which taps the complementary expertise of a depository library and an established data consortium would afford a unique opportunity to assess the methods of accessing electronic information. Should the Joint Committee consider our interest to be suitable for the program, we would prepare a detailed proposal outlining the program's components and mechanisms for possible evaluation.

We look forward to the Committee's favorable review.

Sincerely,

Carla Stoffle

Carla J. Stoffle
Associate Director
University Library

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

University Libraries
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

June 27, 1985

Senator Charles Mathias
387 Senate Russell Office Building
Constitution Ave. between 1st. St. and 2nd St., NE
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

Since I will not be able to attend the hearings on the provision of government information in electronic format to depository libraries, I am writing to you to express my support for the idea and the establishment of a pilot program. Many libraries are interested in gaining access to the basic data even though they may not own the appropriate equipment at the present time. It will not be long before many universities and their depository libraries will have fairly sophisticated new telephone systems to which computers, etc., will interconnect (e.g., Stanford, $11 million system). Shortly, the University of Minnesota will have portions of that capability within its new $21 million telephone system.

The pilot should address the need for both numerical and textual materials. For example, there is a need for the up-to-date texts of federal agency annual reports and compilations (which often appear late). The last Treasury Department Annual Report we have received is 1980, the last Employment and Training Annual Report we've received is 1982, and the last HUD Statistical Yearbook we've received is 1979.

When publishing is delayed, as shown above, the needed information should be routinely accessible electronically. Many uses could be cited. If the principle of maintaining an informed public is to be upheld, electronic transmission of data should be integrated into the depository library system.

Sincerely,

William LaBissoniere
Regional Depository Librarian for the State of Minnesota

cc: Richard Leacy, Georgia Institute of Technology Library

WB/lf

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

University Libraries

Administrative Offices
Columbia, Missouri 65201-5149
Telephone (314) 882-4701

July 24, 1985

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Hart Senate Office Building, Room 816
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

We were very pleased to learn of the Joint Committee on Printing's consideration of providing government information in electronic format to depository libraries. The University of Missouri-Columbia Libraries have been a federal depository since 1862, and are extremely interested in participating in a pilot project to test the viability of the electronic format concept.

The Libraries have a long tradition of service to Missouri citizens. In part, this derives from the University's land grant mission. But it also is based on the recognition that the Libraries function as the State's public research library.

Attached for your consideration is a brief proposal which explains how we would seek to participate in this project. We believe that the University Libraries are both ideally situated and technologically equipped to participate effectively in a pilot project for the electronic dissemination of federal information. If the Committee would like additional information concerning the proposal, we would be happy to provide it.

In conclusion, I hope that the Joint Committee on Printing will respond favorably to the proposal.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Shaughnessy
Director of Libraries

TWS:pab

Attachment

cc: Senator Thomas Eagleton
Senator John Danforth
Congressman Harold Volkmer
Vice Provost John Oren

an equal opportunity institution

University of Missouri-Columbia Libraries

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN A PILOT PROJECT ON THE STORAGE AND DISSEMINATION OF FEDERAL INFORMATION IN ELECTRONIC FORM

Columbia, Missouri 65201

June 20, 1985

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

Background on the Libraries and their services: The University of Missouri was established at Columbia in 1839 as the sole public university in Missouri. It is the oldest state university west of Mississippi, and the largest of the four campuses which comprise the university system. The University is both a land grant institution and a member of the Association of American Universities. In addition to relatively strong undergraduate programs, the University has a full complement of outstanding graduate and professional schools (18 in all) including Arts and Science, Law, Business and Public Administration, Engineering, Agriculture, Nursing, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Education, Public and Community Services, and Library and Information Science. The School of Journalism is internationally renowned. All of the schools are supported and served by one or more of the University's libraries.

The Libraries' collections number well over two million volumes and an even larger number of microform units. The microforms collection is the tenth largest among the members of the Association of Research Libraries. In view of the strength of its resources, the library serves as the de facto public research library for all of Missouri.

In addition to books and serials, the libraries contain research materials in a variety of other formats: phonorecords, compact discs, maps, pamphlets, extensive newspaper clipping files, and the documents of federal and state governments and the United Nations. The Library has been a depository for federal documents since 1862 and a depository for Missouri documents since 1977. The Library maintains exchange programs with more than 500 libraries around the world and has been designated under PL 480 to receive publications from South Asia. In a cooperative exchange program with the Linda Hall Library, the UMC Libraries receive all non-scientific academic publications from the USSR.

Applications of computer technology: In January, 1985, the University of Missouri-Columbia Library brought up a public access online catalog. It contains over 500,000 bibliographic records from the Columbia campus, as well as an equal number of records from University of Missouri campuses at Rolla, St. Louis, and Kansas City. An active program of record conversion is in progress so that additional records are being converted daily.

The online catalog not only interconnects the libraries of the four University campuses and the Missouri State Library, but also makes available library resources to residents throughout the state via computer terminals located in University Extension offices in all 114 counties of Missouri. This service is in keeping with the University's land grant mission.

The library holds memberships in OCLC, OCTANET, Mid America State Universities Association, and the Missouri Library Network Corporation. It was the first in Missouri to offer end-user database search service, and is engaged in a program to improve the computer literacy of both staff and patrons. The library was also the first in Missouri to provide a microcomputer laboratory for the use of students and faculty.

Project Outline: the University Libraries propose to become a regional center for the storage, retrieval and dissemination of federal information in electronic format. Data would be stored on discs or tapes and accessed through the University of Missouri system computer. (This same computer supports the online catalog, described above.) The Library would cooperate with the Computer Center in determining usage made of federal information provided on magnetic tapes (should this be the format in which this information is distributed).

Alternatively, the library has housed within its facility a microcomputer laboratory with IBM PCs and MacIntosh computers. This lab is open to the public. If the electronic data were distributed in compatible disc format, the library would make the discs available to the public, as well as monitor and evaluate this use.

The focus of the program would have two dimensions, each of which reflects a growing need for information. The first need is for agricultural information. Missouri has been and remains an agricultural state, with numerous small, but productive, farms. In response to the need for management and economic information, the University of Missouri-Columbia Library, in cooperation with the College of Agriculture's Agricultural Economics Department, has established a computer-based information system on small farms.

In contrast to the agricultural dimension, there is also a rapidly increasing need for high-tech information. The State has recently established four research innovation centers (one of which is located at the University of Missouri-Columbia) to attract new industry to the State, to assist local businesses in expanding their operations, and to provide inventors and innovators with the legal, technical, and commercial information which they need in order to bring ideas into reality.

The Library already has an extensive collection of materials in paper and microfilm formats, and access via commercial and other databases to bibliographic, textual, and other types of information. The provision of federal government publications in electronic format would not only supplement these collections, but open new and extraordinary opportunities for the library in meeting the needs of Missouri citizens and others in the central United States. Inquiries have already been received by the library as to the availability of tapes from the National Center for Educational Statistics, Internal Revenue Service, and Census Bureau. There has been a definite need expressed by graduate students and faculty who must have this data for research purposes without phenomenal cost. It is our belief that an electronic data library established at the University of Missouri-Columbia Libraries is essential to meet the informational needs of this region.

The library has a well-qualified and able staff, access to computer facilities, and the ability to deliver these new services. A systematic process of program evaluation would be introduced to measure the impact (as well as determine the costs) of electronic access services on their users.

A detailed proposal is currently being prepared which will more fully describe our goals and objectives, service delivery systems, and evaluation methods. The purpose of this preliminary draft is to indicate the Library's strong interest in the Joint Committee on Printing's proposal, and its desire to participate in the JCP program as a pilot or test site.

Thomas W. Shaughnessy
University of Missouri-Columbia Libraries
June 20, 1985

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87131

August 1, 1985

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Hart Senate Office Building
Room 818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I want to register the enthusiastic interest of the University of New Mexico (UNM) in Albuquerque, New Mexico in participating in a pilot project for the provision of electronic government information to depository libraries.

A primary interest to us is any pilot developed by U. S. Geological Survey which entails digital and/or video disk technology in a cartographic setting. We are a longtime U.S.G.S. map depository and have a map collection of over 120,000 and are the only major collection in the state of New Mexico.

We would also be interested in any pilot developed by the Patent Office. We are one of the 58 Patent Depository Libraries and have begun developing an in-state network to extend access to our existing patent resources throughout New Mexico.

Access to Government Printing Office machine readable bibliographic records which produce the Monthly Catalog would also have a high interest for us as we are currently involved in attempting to add records for government publications to our online database.

There is, as a matter of fact, probably no pilot project that we would not be willing to at least consider!

UNM serves as one of the Regional Libraries in the Federal Depository Library program and has always had a history and philosophy of support and extension of resources to the other selective Federal Depositories in the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Vassallo

Paul Vassallo
Dean of Library Services

PV/EB:cs/cm
cc: Senator Pete V. Domenici
Senator Jeff Bingaman
Congressman Manuel Lujan, Jr.

GENERAL LIBRARY TELEPHONE 505: 277-4241

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY · LOGAN, UTAH 84322

MERRILL LIBRARY AND
LEARNING RESOURCES PROGRAM

LIBRARY SERVICES

June 21, 1985

Bernadine Hoduski
Joint Committee On Printing
Hart Building 818
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bernadine:

Please find attached a brief statement of Utah State University's position regarding the question of making available Government publications in electronic journals to Depository Libraries. As part of that statement we have included an expression of our interest in participating in the proposed pilot project. The final document is a draft of Glenn Wilde's proposal to the Kellogg Foundation aimed at providing rural learning and information services. I will attempt to locate a statement on the Western Studies Center and pass it along later.

I'm sorry our trip to Washington didn't develop due to shortage of dollars. We desire to support and offer input. Perhaps Karlo will appear, but I doubt it. At any rate, thank you and I look forward to seeing you in Chicago in July.

Sincerely,

Max P. Peterson

Max P. Peterson, Director
Library and Information Services
Merrill Library, UMC 30
Utah State University
Logan, Utah 84322

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY · LOGAN, UTAH 84322

MERRILL LIBRARY AND
LEARNING RESOURCES PROGRAM

LIBRARY SERVICES

June 21, 1985

AD HOC Committee on Depository Libraries
ACCESS to Federal Automated Data Bases

The Merrill Library at Utah State University appreciates the opportunity to submit a position statement on the issue of including information produced by Government agencies in electronic format as Depository items. It is our opinion that the democratic ideals which allow citizens access to Government information as expressed in the opening statement of Government Depository Libraries, as revised July, 1982, be continued and include information in any format.

The theme expressing Government responsibility to inform the public on policies and programs of the Federal Government through free access to Government produced information should not be altered to exclude information produced electronically.

It is our position that since the dissemination of Government produced information is as important as the creation of that information, a means should be provided to support that role to the degree that access to information available in electronic format is no more restricted than that found in more traditional formats. We believe that with direction and support the Depository System now in place can provide that service in a manner which supports the "intent" of Congress to make Government produced information available to the citizens of this nation.

Utah State University is willing to participate in a pilot project as described in the report of the AD HOC Committee on Depository Library Access to Federal Automated Data Bases.

We feel the Merrill Library satisfies the criteria listed and are prepared to make the commitment necessary for the project to demonstrate the capability of the traditional Depository Library System to extend service to cover information produced via electronic means.

U.S.U is Utah's land-grant institution and has a long history of extending to patrons throughout the state and region the same services of research, instruction, and supportive programs as offered at the University. Active participation in existing networks, service centers, and cooperative efforts on a local, regional, and national level demonstrates a willingness to use the latest means and technology to get information to users. The same effort will be extended in demonstrating the pros and cons of using an electronic format for distribution of depository items. We are confident we have the staff, equipment, and commitment to conduct a fair examination and then offer good evaluation at the conclusion of a study period.

Our Documents collection and excellent supporting staff match the best in the nation. Demonstrated leadership in matters related to the concept of the Depository System is well documented.

In addition to the usual network and cooperative efforts, (OCLC, DIALOG, SDC, BCR) our Library is a leader in the Utah College Library Council and the Utah Network of Cooperating Libraries. Utah has a highly active GODART group as well as a standing U.S. Government Documents Committee under the Utah College Library Council.

Our Audio Visual Services has long standing contracts to distribute films on a regional basis for A) Forest Service, B) National Fish and Wildlife, C) National Park Service, and D) The American Welding Society. We have a long association with the National Agriculture Library as a link in their Document Delivery Program.

An example of involvement by the Library in the use of new technology can be found in current University promoted programs where the Library is an active partner in regional cooperative efforts. The creation of a Western Rural Development Center, a multi-state project aimed at the establishment of a network providing rural communities learning and information services, has a strong library component that uses many types of new technologies for distribution of learning resources to rural areas.

A second example is a Western Regional Studies Center. This unit combines academic instruction, outlook programs, and information gathering and distribution throughout the region. The program

uses a combination of media from the most traditional to the latest technology to transfer information and programs to persons on campus, across the state, or throughout the region.

Finally we are prepared to monitor the pilot program as proposed. Our special concerns include the impact on the users, the costs as compared to the services, and the role of private vendors in the distribution of information produced by Government Agencies.

RODERICK G. SWARTZ
State Librarian

STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY
AJ-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0111

June 25, 1985

Thomas Kleis, Staff Director
Joint Committee on Printing
SH-818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Kleis:

I am writing to you on behalf of the federal depositories in Washington State to indicate our strong support for the distribution of data in electronic format to depository libraries. The Washington State Library has long recognized this valuable source of information and has for the past year been acquiring floppy disks of census material as part of the State Census Data Network. The census disks are run on an IBM PC XT and specific delimiters are created to provide a structure for data access. The State Library is also exploring the possibility of accessing state data tapes via our regional utility, the Western Library Network, and providing online access to this data for the 200 libraries in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana served by the network. With this background, I would like to request that the Washington State Library, which is the federal regional library for Washington and Alaska, be considered for any project involving the distribution of federal data tapes. We feel that our regional system, with its base of IBM PCs in all network libraries, would provide an excellent test for use of data in electronic format.

Should we be designated to receive any of the sample tape or tapes, the library would load them on either the Washington State University mainframe Amdahl V8 or the Western Library Network mainframe V6. The information, depending on what access software is needed or provided, would then be available for direct online library inquiry for the 200 libraries on WLN. This type of data access would provide immediate information to the wide range of patrons served by the public, academic and special libraries in our multi-state region.

I thank you in advance for your consideration and I hope that the Washington State Library will be able to participate in the pilot projects being considered by the committee.

Sincerely,

Nancy Zussy
Nancy Zussy
Deputy State Librarian

Washington
State University

The Libraries, Pullman, Washington 99164-5610

July 26, 1985

The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
Room 818 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our interest in being contacted once possible pilot projects in the provision of electronic government information to depository libraries are identified.

Some librarians at Washington State University have been following developments in this area with considerable interest, and would certainly like to be informed of opportunities to contribute. Of course, the manner in which, and the extent to which, we might be able to participate will depend on circumstances, but it is my understanding that this letter will not be construed as a commitment in those matters.

Sincerely yours,

D. Bushaw

D. Bushaw
Acting Director of Libraries

DB:NW
cc: Members of Washington Congressional Delegation

Wilton Library Association, Inc.
137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT 06897
(203) 762-3950

June 17, 1985

Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.
Chairman, Joint Committee on Printing
U.S. Congress
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Mathias:

I recently received a copy of the Committee Print Provision of Federal Government Publications in Electronic Format to Depository Libraries. I understand that you will soon be holding a hearing on the recommendations contained in this report.

The concept of providing free public access to electronically produced federal government information is vital to a free society. I wholeheartedly endorse the proposed pilot study concept. The Connecticut State Librarian, Clarence Walters, is offering the Connecticut State Library (CSL) as a possible pilot study site. As the director of a small, non-depository, public library in Connecticut I enthusiastically endorse the Connecticut State Library as a potential pilot site. The Connecticut State Library provides state-wide second and third level reference services to all Connecticut libraries. Access to electronic information will enhance their ability to serve our reference needs. If CSL has access to these data bases, that in turn will allow all libraries and all library patrons in Connecticut to have quick, affordable access to government information available in electronic format.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Golrick
Library Director

MAG:mm

cc: Clarence Walters, Connecticut State Librarian
Julie Schwartz, Documents Librarian, Connecticut State Library
Bernardine A. Hoduski, Joint Committee on Printing

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